66a-1944

Alabama

Letters To The Editor

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.

10-30-44

TUSKEGEE'S PLEA

To The Commercial Appeal:

Not all of those who have had increased wages and incomes have been thrifty; others, through the disadvantage of a lack of education, have not been able to remain steadily employed even in temporary war jobs, and still others are being "let out" because labor demands are decreasing. Parents of many such families are to be found in the small towns and rural areas of the South and the children in these homes, in many instances, are most likely to be neglected, or through no fault of their own, denied some of the holiday reminders which children in better managed homes enjoy.

Reports, however, indicate that children from the most backward homes have spontaneously joined with other children in gathering scrap metal, tin cans, paper, etc., to help the war effort. They have performed these patriotic tasks willingly and with enthusiasm and sometimes at great personal sacrifice have invested pennied in War Stamps.

10-30-44

In order that such children will not be disappointed during the Christmas season, Tuskegee Institute will continue its annual service of distributing, among the most deserving of them, gifts which devoted friends send us each year for this purpose.

Many of the older children in rural areas have been taught how to make over old clothing into useful garments and to use the scraps for making toys and other useful articles for younger children.

We, therefore, solicit discarded clothing, shoes, books, toys and pictures and other such articles which our experienced workers will classify and distribute where there is the most need. Many friends prefer to send money which we use with utmost discretion in reaching the largest number of worthy young people and indigent old people.

10-30-44

Packages and letters may be addressed to: F. D. Patterson, President, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

F. D. PATTERSON.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

66a-1944

Family

10-YEAR-OLD TEXAS MOTHER

Adele White, 10 years and 4 months old, with her new-born baby, Annie Mae. Dr. E. T. Cook, of Cook hospital in Monahans, Texas, delivered the baby and attested the mother's age. The baby was born January 1 and weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces at birth. The child's father has not been identified.

Youngest Mother In U.S. 10-Year-Old Texas Girl

MONAHANS, Texas. — Probably the youngest mother in the history of the United States is a 10-year-old Negro girl who gave birth here January 1, to an eight-pound, eight-ounce daughter. Dr. J. E. Cook, who delivered the infant, said it was a natural birth. Both mother and child are doing well, he said.

"The child never did know what was happening," he said. "She had been told she was going to have a baby, but she wanted to get right up and go out and play with the other children."

The young mother's father is a 36-year-old truck driver. Her mother is 32 years old.

"So far," Dr. Cook said, "we haven't been able to get the girl to tell us who the father of her baby is."

One Child of Nine In U. S. Living In Broken Home

New York, May 22 (U.P.)—About 4,500,000 American children under 18, about one-ninth of the total number, are members of families broken by death, separation or divorce, according to statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Commenting on the prevalence of juvenile delinquents that come from broken families, it was pointed out that one-tenth of all white children and as many as one-fifth of Negro children are not in homes headed by a husband and wife.

By far the most important cause of family disruption is the death of mother or father, the report said. In 1940 there were 3,846,000 children, at least one of whose parents was dead.

WHITE MAN'S VIEWS

Relationship Exists Between Divorces and Racial Antagonisms

By TED LE BERTHON

IT is most deeply significant that theories of race separation or segregation have been fostered primarily and almost exclusively by Anglo-Saxons, who also have fostered family separation or divorce ever since King Henry VIII, murderer of several of his wives, founded the Church of England in 1534 in the wake of Pope Clement VII's refusel to grant him a divorce from Catherine of Aragon. Where division of the family, the basic unit of society, has been legalized, division of the human race has inevitably been legalized later. Classes and racial groups split into antagonistic elements, and religious groups divide and redivide, new sects constantly multiplying.

Mr. Le Berthon

Clergymen of denominations which stoutly uphold Jim Crowism are also the most willing to unite in wedlock persons who have been divorced from other persons. They would be willing to unite me in marriage to some girl today "'till death do us part," and should we be divorced, unite me a couple of years hence to some other girl "till death do us part." Most of them would never care whether either girl or I were members of their denomination, nor if they ever saw us before or after the ceremony.

TIME FOR ACTION

Such clergymen, playing fast and loose with the most sacred human relations, and making mockeries of pacts before God that persons shall stand by each other "from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part," are the same ones who chronically mock Christ in excluding Negroes from their churches. They do not stand for Christ, in Whom all Christians should be one. They stand for division.

THE hour has struck, I think, for these clergymen to ponder this dismemberment of the Mystical Body of Christ, and to follow St. Paul's admonition (Colossians, III, 10-11) by "putting on the new man, him who is renewed unto knowledge, according to the image of Him who created him; where there is neither Gentile nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian nor Scythian, bond nor free; but Christ is all in all."

JIM CROWISM HAS ROOTS IN CHURCH

In the South, the hour of history has come for the white clergy of the white Methodist, Baptist, Campbellite and other denominations to realize the chaos of division, the monstrous evil of race separation, and to start overtures to the clergy of the Negro Methodist, Baptist, Campellite and other denominations for a union of churches, in which every church building in every locality will humbly be open to any child of God.

AS I have repeatedly stated, Jim Crowism could not exist if it did not start in churches, which presumably are houses of God, where it receives the false semblance of a divine sanction. Here are its roots. Uproot it, and it will wither away from all other walks of life and all other social institutions.

URGE UNION BETWEEN CHURCH GROUPS

A recent survey gives the number of Protestant denominations in the United States today as 772, and one Protestant clergyman said he believed there are nearer 1,000 There is no sound reason for so many. There cannot be that many important theological differences. Such splendid Protestant clergymen as the Rev. Stanley Jones and Rev. Stanley High of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, have for years urged union between the various Protestant denominations.

AND what better twin steps than all meet and agree to abolish divorce and Jim Crowism, to do away with that constant itch for disintegrating the family and the human race, to halt the process whereby more and more human beings are arbitrarily and cruelly pitted against each other, and to stop sects from multiplying.

FORESEES ANOTHER DISASTROUS WAR

We are living in ominous times and heroic steps are required. Otherwise we may face a national chaos, a national nightmare. In a published interview I did with the late Judge Ben B. Lindsey less than a year before his death, he pointed out that domestic disunity due to divorce was bound to rot away national unity in time.

IT was his view that a nation of persons disloyal to one another in the most sacred and intimate relations were "fair weather people" who would not be loyal to their country if things ever started going badly. Judge Lindsey also believed that racial disunity, unless checked, was bound to undermine the foundations of national unity, even to the point of precipitating another Civil War, of disastrous consequences.

If this happenened, the South most racially disunified, less populous, and less industrialized, would again lose to the North. But actually, the whole nation would lose and be weakened for attack from the outside. It is written "A house divided against itself shall fall."

Watching THE Big Parade

By RALPH MATTHEWS

Marriages

One of the big problems to which post-war planners have failed to advance any solutions is, what are we going to do about the hasty war marriages?

From where I sit, it looks as if a good 50 per cent will land on the rocks, not to mention those pre-Pearl Harbor unions with a running start of a year or two, which are destined to crack up just on general principles.

These predictions are based on the theory that love as a binder is not as elastic as many romanticists would make us suppose. It is difficult enough to keep it alive right when both parties to the spell are housed under one roof, not to mention stretching it across the seven seas.

The old saying, "absence makes the heart grow fonder," is just a snare and a delusion, thought up by some potential rascal who intended spending most of his time away from home.

Of course, everybody experiences some pangs of remorse and even enjoys the sweet misery of parting, but after a week or two it is quite possible to slip back into a normal individualistic existance and forget that the second party ever lived.

Some young wives are so heartbroken over being parted from their husbands that it takes a half dozen Jodies working on swing shifts to help them bind their wounds.

I certainly hope that the Army chiefs will have the forethought to relieve returning husbands of all weapons before mustering them out, just to keep down the post-war murder rate.

Shotgun Affairs

But if the boys from the foxholes have to face a precarious domestic future, I think the outlook for the girls is equally dismal.

The thing that most people forget is that, psychologically speaking, many war marriages were shotgun affairs.

I don't mean that an angry father rounded up the scoundrel with a breech loader and backed him before a preacher with that "he ain't done right by my Nell" scowl on his face.

But the presence of an impatient and gluttonous draft board was the equivalent in that it forced the issue. Many lads really had not time to look around and make up their minds.

They grabbed the first anxious maid who was close at hand, egged on, I suppose, by some erroneous belief that all the women would be gobbled up by the time they got back.

Now the girls, on their part, rushed into marriage with that peculiar reasoning women have of telling themselves "this isn't exactly what I want, but I can make it over," as they would would a dress or a hat.

Marital Shock-Absorbers

That theory has never worked out satisfactorily down through the ages. Women marry a heel, and in their imagination endow him with all the virtues of a god.

When after years of trying to convert him into their ideal, a process which was doomed to failure from the beginning, they then become embittered at their own inability to work miracles and begin hounding him to death.

They never concede that the guy they wind up with is the same guy they married—the same bum as a whole, the same

Leading Negroes Legal Births In Illegal

Department announced in this State in 1942 was only 16.5 per 1,000, as compared with a negro rate of 192.4 per 1,000, ber of non-negroes among the The white rate for the United States as a whole was only 17 too small to affect the rates materially.

as in the nation illegitimate births per 1,000 live births to total live births

ie percentage of births, as compared with a negro

g out of wedlock rate of 170.6 illegitimate births

es greater among for every 1,000 live births.

among white peo- The rates for both the United

to information re- States and this State were on

State Department the basis of "white" and "non-

n the Bureau of white" births, rather than strict-

the Census. ly on the basis of white births

The ratio of illegitimate white and negro births, but a State

FAMILY HAS SIX GENERATIONS LIVING

Argus — St. Louis, Mo.
7-21-44

Mrs. Carrie Calhoun (90 Years Old) Great-Great Great Grandmother

Mrs. Charity Buchanon (70 Years Old) Great Great Grandmother

Mrs. Lucille Dixon (50 Years Old) Great Grandmother

Mrs. Prudence Hall (35 Years Old) Young Grandmother

Mrs Margie Williams (20 Years Old) Young Mother

Doris Williams (5 Months Old) Young Daughter

7-21-44

Here's why it's hard to get a husband

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
8-21-44

Women outnumber men in the resident Negro population of the Los Angeles area by several thousand, an anlysis of the population figures recently released by the Bureau of the Census showed this week.

Of the overall 134,519 population men total 60,907 while women total 73,612, the report stated. The total figure is more than a 50 percent increase over the Los Angeles Area Negro population for 1940, which was 75,496.

Adults 25 to 34 years of age accounted for the largest group in a breakdown of the total population for the Race. Children under 15 years of age were next with a total of 27,797. There are 25,718 adults from 35 to 44; 19,789 young people from 15 to 24 years of age and 16,478 middle aged persons from 45 to 54.

In the age group from 55 to 64, there are 8,932 persons and 5,775 "oldsters" from 65 on. The ages of 231 persons, estimated in the population, were not reported on.

The largest number of Los Angeles Negro women are found in the 25-34 age group, but the largest number of Negro males are found in the child class. There are 17,556 women from 25-34, only 12,243 men. This, according to the statisicians, is due to the draft of men for the armed services. However, in 1940, women in all the brackets except those under 15 years of age, outnumbered the men.

8-21-44

Los Angeles Negroes are four percent of the city's total population, an increase of one and four-tenths percent over 1940.

GOOD MORALS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

Home Life Corrupted And Contaminated by Loose Family Ties

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

3-25-44

THOSE who are constantly building castles in the air for a more virile and progressive colored people, had well peer into their home life, for it is the veritable bedrock of culture and civilization. The frozen, unvarnished truth about ourselves must be determined, before we can tell just where we stand. It is appalling and confounding to know that common-law marriages, illegitimacy and drunkenness have contaminated and corrupted a vital segment of the colored people in America.

Mr. Bibb
3-25-44

In one very important metropolis, workers in the courts of domestic relations, parole officers and investigators among juveniles, have amassed statistics showing that more than 25 per cent of the unions formed by our men and women have not been celebrated by law or blessed by benefit of clergy. These open and adulterous relations are commonly described as "common law marriages." These guilty parties, who indulge in "free love," are making no pretense of respecting either law or convention. They are so beclouded in their vision and so renegade in their contemplation of common decency, that they herald their moral obliquity to the world. They do not give a damn who knows it and they have the brazen effrontery and unbridled audacity to hold themselves out to the world as man and wife. The direct result of this social degeneracy is clearly shown in any intense study of the home life of colored people.

More than 30 per cent of the children in the same metropolis are illegitimate. The existence of this evil is so notorious, that it is becoming popular. High school girls in advanced stages of pregnancy are seen cavorting along the rialtos, without the slightest sense of shame or remorse, for having committed the original sin. This sad condition has been repeatedly brought to the attention of the authorities and social uplift organizations. Much has been done to provide homes for the unfortunate offsprings of sin and shame, but very little has been accomplished in creating civic resentment among the leaders of the colored people.

THE consumption of liquor in colored communities has become so staggering that drunkenness is accepted as the order of the day. More liquor is sold in the districts inhabited by our people, than in all of the other combined communities of this city of four million souls. Liquor journals freely publish this news and we go merrily on our wicked ways, sometimes stopping long enough to grumble about housing, schools and discriminations. True enough, these evils are the by-products of bad living conditions, over-crowded schools, prejudice and exploitation, but, wallowing in the mud, stench and filth, in which we are compelled to live, is no way to get out of it.

3-25-44

"LEADERS" WINK AT OBVIOUS EVILS

Virtue, sobriety and morality can be established in under-privileged communities and ghettoes, if the community leaders ever come to the conclusion that colored people are held enthralled. In the writer's knowledge and experience, with those with power and influence in these besotted communities, he has found that these "leaders" have not only winked at obvious evils, but have made profit out of them. They have been satisfied and content to let the people proceed on hell-bent, as long as they were permitted to collect the income tax from graft and wax fat off of vice.

3-25-44

IT is high time that patterns for better morals be established in our communities. The entire race is hampered and hindered in every conceivable way by the break down of the home life. The public conduct of colored people can easily be understood and explained, when the searchlight is turned into the homes. Those who wait for the municipalities to correct such conditions, had well wait for the sands to shove back the tides. We stand doomed and damned as a people; we stand frustrated in the quest of civil liberties, when those who saunter from our homes, are lecherous, venal creatures. The white man is concerned with our domestic depravities, only insofar as it corrupts him. It is the job of colored Americans to purify their homes and set wholesome standards of living. Until they grapple with these evident evils, very little can be expected in solid, substantial advancement.

66a-1944

General

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

By HAROLD PREECE

7-22-44

Convention Of Prophets

LAST MONTH, the Republican convention met in Chicago to draw up a platform that would take us back to yesterday, that would snuff the very life out of this borning New South.

But when this column comes off the press, another kind of convention will be under way in Detroit, 300 miles from Chicago. It will be a convention whose platform would close the books on yesterday and open the page for tomorrow.

It is the convention of the Peoples Congress of Applied Religion and its key man is one of the daddies of the New South—my friend, Rev. Claude Williams, a poor white preacher who was once beaten up by Arkansas planters and afterwards thrown into Fort Smith jail for organizing together his sharecropper brethren of both races.

Now, I've read that Republican platform which is enough to make Brother Abraham Lincoln wake up from his long sleep in the friendly ground and go back to his native Southern hills, looking for his Winchester. That platform can be summed up short and not too sweet—that platform is Herbert Hoover, who made the main talk at the convention plus a return to Hooverism at the very time when the Lord's children of Dixie are beginning to look up and act up.

Brother Abe Lincoln would have felt mighty out of place at that Republican convention where they nominated Tom Dewey to fill the seat once held by him, who is now known to all nations and all tongues as the Great Emancipator. Brother Abe Lincoln would have uncrossed his long legs, hitched up his old shabby suit that his wife could never get him to change, and walked out of the convention after they brought in Herbert Hoover's platform and Herbert Hoover's candidate, Tom Dewey.

People's Platform 7-22-44

BUT BROTHER Abe Lincoln would feel that he was meeting with his own folks if he attended this convention of the Peoples Congress of Applied Religion. The people at that convention will be the kind of folks he used to swap yarns with across the stove on the long winter evenings—Negro and poor white preachers serving congregations of Southerners working in war plants as well as congregations of Southerners still living back in the homeland; Negro and poor white delegates from religious, labor, civic, political, and fraternal organizations.

And when he heard the platform read by Brother Claude Williams, he'd say, "It's the same kind of platform that I ran on in 1860, but brought up to date. I reckon I'm for it."

Here is the platform which those cotton patch preachers and those delegates of both races will be proclaiming in the churches and the meeting places when they get back home:

For a people's world, founded in fact and practice, upon the principles of economic justice, racial brotherhood, religious freedom and political equality.

For the utter defeat of all fascist forces, that the peoples of the earth may be free to establish such a world of justice and brotherhood. 7-22-44

Against the illusions of pacifism, nationalism, appeasement — until the evil forces which give rise to conflict are destroyed in Armageddon and all things are put under the feet of the people.

For racial equality, without which there can never be—a peoples world of freedom and good will in practice.

Against the sin of anti-semitism, a vice employed by the agents of tyranny to divide the people and to defeat their efforts toward the establishment of a people's world.

Against the poll tax, a violation of political equality and a weapon used by eight Southern states to divide the people; to deny them a voice in their present government and in the establishing of a peoples' world. 7-22-44

For the organizing of all workers into labor unions, the basic instruments of the people for economic justice and political freedom, and political freedom, and without which churches, public schools, and other free institutions cannot have any security of status.

For whole-hearted support of the principles and conditions set forth at Teheran, that the naked, hungry, enslaved, exposed and sick peoples of the world may be clothed, freed, housed, and healed.

For a dynamic religious program which unconditionally and actively identifies itself with the peoples of the world in their fight against arrogance and oppression and in their struggle to establish a world of justice and brotherhood.

Bible Message 7-22-44

YOU COULD never get Tom Dewey and Herbert Hoover to say "amen" to that kind of platform. For the platform of Claude Williams is too much the platform of Abe Lincoln to suit them — although Claude Williams isn't out to be president or even a justice of the peace back there in those Cumberland hills which gave birth both to him and to Abe Lincoln.

For Brother Claude, shepherd of both the white sheep and the black sheep in that great fold of the South's disinherited, believes with his Master that "he who would be the greatest among you must be the servant of all." That is the reason why his message, delivered by preachers with weed-stains and callouses on their hands, is being heard in many a clapboard church of those lowly who are Christ's kinfolks down in the deltas and piney woods.

For the message of Claude Williams is the old message of the Bible and the Declaration of Independence: that all men are created free and equal in this world where the Lord created freedom and equality when he created the sun and the rivers. 7-22-44

I am buying some copies of Brother Claude's little pamphlet, "The Scriptural Heritage of the People," and passing it on to preachers I know. It's the best Bible commentary that I have ever read because it tells me, as the Scriptures tell me, that "God is always calling for the people to rise up against slavery, oppression, and injustice."

Even as He called them to rise when He sent a man named Moses to lead them against a man named Pharoah.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

By HAROLD PREECE

Aunt Tut vs. L'il Abner

AUNT TUT SANDERS has gotten so old that she can barely hobble over to Mr. Marion's general store for a can of coal oil or to a neighbor's with a jar of her wild plum preserves.

Scholars, who understand the mountain people better than some cartoonists, would love the peculiar Old English that Aunt Tut speaks. They'd tell you that it was the same English which was used by a queen named Elizabeth, four hundred years ago.

They wouldn't think Aunt Tut comical for her language. They'd feel mighty lucky to find somebody speaking the English that was good enough for queens, that was good enough for Shakespeare when he wrote the plays and poetry that are the world's greatest literature, next to the Bible.

But Al Capp, who draws the "L'il Abner" cartoons, isn't any scholar. Nor do I consider him to be either a gentleman or a patriot.

Capp and Streicher

If I had to compare him to anybody, it would be to Julius Streicher, the Nazi maniac, who was responsible for inflammatory cartoons showing all Jews as rapists and blood-suckers.

Capp may consider all his parodies of southern mountain people to be good, clean fun. But so did Streicher consider his parodies of the Jewish people.

I know how Al Capp would portray my friend, Aunt Tut Sanders, as I know how Julius Streicher would portray my friend, Max Lipschutz, a weaver who lives in Brooklyn, sharing the riches of his poverty with every other human being in need. 3-11-44

Al Capp would picture this dignified, kindly old lady of the hills as a swashbuckling, snuff-dipping "Mammy Yokum," speaking a bumpkin dialect, continually having sub-human adventures with sub-human characters bearing sub-human names like "Hairless Joe" and "Hamlover McGoon."

His brush—the soul of Streicher combined with the hand of Capp—would portray the mountain boys, off fighting for their country, as yokel twins of "L'il Abner."

I wish Al Capp would come down to these hills. I wish that the fellow who draws the cartoons of long-bearded, barefooted "mountaineers" for the smutty magazine, Esquire, would come along with him.

'Working-Over'

You see, I'm a mountaineer too. I'd like to give these boys a working-over.

For the benefit of my wife who doesn't like cuss-fighting, I mean that I'd like to re-educate them about the people they slander: the mountain people whom they make into moonshining, feuding simpletons. 3-11-44

I'd also like to have, as pupils, those who draw the same kind of cartoons about Negroes, making all colored citizens into crapshooting, razor-toting simpletons.

I'd like to educate—behind the thickest bars in Tennessee—all those who make jokes about other people because they talk or look differently from somebody else.

I'd like to educate those who make and draw jokes about mountaineers and Negroes, Jews and Scotchmen, Irishmen and Swedes, or any other people to whom the Good Lord has given the breath of life.

I can't laugh at the cartoons about the parody mountaineer, "L'il Abner." When I remember the agony of lynched Jews in Germany and lynched Negroes in Georgia, I can't laugh at "Jew jokes" or at the cartoons of the parody Negro, "Hambone." 3-11-44

What's Behind It

Brothers, I know too well what's behind it all. I know that there are two ways that the fly-by-night Nazis have of keeping the eternal peoples apart.

One way is to keep folks fighting each other. I understand that Hitler carefully studied the Confederate technique of keeping southern poor whites and Negroes scrapping before he started his beer hall Ku Klux out bashing heads.

The second way is to keep folks laughing at each other. I remember the "minstrel shows" that I was taken to as a child in Tahoka and Wolfe City, Texas. Good clean fun—maybe! But what sort of impressions about Negroes did it leave in my young mind?

Thousands of Negro children, along with thousands of white children outside these hills, read the L'il Abner cartoons every day. What sort of an impression does it leave on their young minds about the mountain poor whites—the folks who gave us that eternal lover and champion of all peoples, Abe Lincoln? 3-11-44

I'm no killjoy. I wouldn't take the funnies away from the kids. But I'd try, with the help of other parents, to see that my newspaper carried no funnies which slandered and mocked friends and neighbors of other races.

I believe that our ally, Russia, has the right idea. Anybody who runs down any people there, either by shooting off his mouth or shooting off his brush, gets a two-year course in human decency behind Russian bars.

I believe that Russia has fought such a good fight because her home front has not been wracked with "race riots" and the cheap horseplay which makes races mad at each other.

Characterizing the Wine Shop as a "Solox House", a ...ve and a menace, more than a score of leading Negro ...inisters and professional men appeared before the Com...ittee hearing to protest the continuation of this menac...g threat to the safety and security of Negro citizens, which ...ad long been regarded as a nuisance to the several church-

9-16-44

Avenue, will have the heartiest endorsement and approval ...ck upon the Smith Wine Shop, located at 255 Auburn ...f Negro leaders in Atlanta, ministers and lay leaders alike

Only The Opening Gun, We Hope

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

The vote of Police Committee here last Thursday eve...

es immediately surrounding it.

Beyond these serious charges, members of Police Committee introduced into the hearing, testimony that the management had been found to have peddled strong drinks and even "solox" to small children, 15 and 16-year-old boys and girls. One witness branded the Wine Shop as "one of the vilest and most demoralizing places in Atlanta."

9-16-44

Negro citizens, therefore, owe a great debt of gratitude to Police Committee to the Negro ministers and leaders, and to the personal efforts and interest of Mayor William B. Hartsfield, who in the midst of his busy hours, took time out to put in his presence and lend his moral support.

Counsel for the Wine Shop at one point in the hearings, sought to inject a racial interpretation into the Negro leaders protests. But properly, this view was soon discredited by the forthright testimony of Rev. M. L. King, assured the Committee that "one of the best regulated and most orderly places in the neighborhood of his church is conducted by a white man", against whom there is no complaint. Moreover, it is utterly ridiculous to even discuss the racial angle, when by the testimony of the officers, the place showed no regards for the future of Negro people in that it dispensed and peddled drinks to minors.

Of course, in the ordinary routine of a business of the type of the Wine Shop, it would be unwise for us to delude ourselves by thinking that the matter is now settled and neatly disposed of. Nothing could be further from the truth. Already, it is reported that counsel anticipates appeal to the City Council of Police decision. That is to be expected. But it remains now for ministers, business and professional leaders, together with our civic organizations to remain determined that this dive shall go never to return to plague our churches and threaten our safety.

9-16-44

Finally, while the Wine Shop is the center for the attack from Negro leaders, it is by no means, the sole object of this attack. Negro leaders know, as was so clearly revealed here in a recent mass jailing of loiterers for "occupying a dive", that these places are not only widespread and dangerous throughout Negro neighborhoods, but that they likewise are cess pools of vice, crime, and even social diseases. Accordingly, we commend the leaders in this effort, but we could under no circumstances, rest contented here. Police must not relent one inch until a fine tooth comb is made to run through the entire area surrounding the Wine Shop. Behavior within this area is unbecoming to a city of the size and leadership of Atlanta. Moreover, we bid seriously for an expanding crusade beyond the confines of Auburn Avenue, wherein all such notorious dens and cess pools will be swept from the Atlanta area, so that we may go forward with the upbringing of our children to become useful and decent citizens and leaders in tomorrow's world. And above all else, let everyone know here and now, it is not a crusade against color or race, but one against crime, vice and disease, inherent in these dives.

A Tribute To Georgia

Advertiser - Mont'gomery
12-22-44 Atla.

Thurman Arnold is a dynamic figure in the American scene. Formerly assistant attorney general and since March, 1943, associate justice of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, he is the author of books, such as "Democracy and Free Enterprise," which have stirred the nation's thought, and he is a keen interpreter of economic and social trends. In the course of his recent visit to Atlanta as guest of his friend, Gov. Ellis Arnall, he made a short after-dinner speech that struck to the heart of some of the vital issues with which the common country, and especially Georgia and the South, are now concerned.

He spoke of economic barriers which long have hindered the South's development, among them being unjust freight rates. Georgia, under its present Governor, he said, is leading the way toward deliverance from those handicaps and is setting an example of what liberal and progressive government can do for a State. In the matter of inequitable freight rates the South and the West have a common grievance, he declared, and will share in the common benefits which the removal of the inequities will insure. Referring to the suit which the State of Georgia has brought against the railroads, in the Supreme Court, he said that, regardless of its outcome—win, lose or draw—it would focus the entire nation's attention on such economic barriers and that ultimately good would come out of it. The South then would gain its proper place in industry and in the national economy, would receive and contribute its rightful share of national prosperity.

Much is said nowadays about the loss of State rights and the peril of over-centralization in Washington. Mr. Justice Arnold reached to the crux of the question in saying that the only way to break up excessive centralization by the Federal government is to have good, strong liberal and progressive government in our States. Such a government, he added, Georgia now has. The shortest and surest way to the recovery of State rights is the assumption of State responsibilities. If we are to have a free and creative economy for the country as a whole, we must break down the economic barriers which have been artificially raised between its different regions. In this, too, said Mr. Justice Arnold, Georgia and her Governor are showing the way. From so able and sincere a judge, this is indeed a meaningful tribute.—Atlanta Journal.

12-22-44

Chicago Judge Orders Negro Families Evicted From Homes

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
2-26-44

CHICAGO.—Twenty Negro families were ordered by Judge Charles S. Dougherty, of renters court, this week to move from their homes in a white district in keeping with a racial restrictive agreement which prohibits Negroes from owning or occupying the property.

A week was given the tenants to find new homes when they explained that Henry Reichard, who is their renting agent, did not inform them they had to move. Reichard is said to have leased the building from the Lake View Trust & Savings Bank, trustees of the property, when it stood vacant and dilapidated. Reichard repaired the building and rented it to colored families.

"Judge Dougherty's decision was in sharp contrast to the opinion and holding of Judge Samuel E. Heller in another restrictive covenant case involving another piece of property," declared Atty. Irvin Mollison, who represented both Reichard and the 20 families. "Judge Heller, without any reservations or qualifications, held that such racial restrictions or agreements prohibiting Negroes from occupying or leasing the property were void and invalid and violated the U. S. Constitution; that they were against public policy; and were so contrary to the fundamental rights of citizenship that ought not be enforced in any court."

3-25-44

SOUTH'S FUTURE HELD PROMISING

Birmingham via Kenne

Ala.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Nov. 28—(AP)—The improvement of the South's economic position offers "the largest frontier that has ever been opened," a Southern industrialist said here Tuesday in offering three steps which he said would help accomplish that tim.

The South has enormous economic possibilities, asserted Basil Horsfield, general manager of Reynolds Metals Company, in a talk before the Kiwanis Club, but so has the North, the East and the West.

11-29-44

The question is one of differential, the ability to produce, he added, and the South has had in the past a negative rather than a positive differential.

He outlined three ways to raise that differential in this section. First, he said, the level of knowledge must be raised for the minimum worker who will be the postwar employe, the man who actually duces. He suggested a minimum of eight years of education in which the worker is taught to express himself, to read well, to know simple accountancy methods.

"I would give the minimum worker one lever—more knowledge—to make him more productive for himself and for me," Horsfield, from Sheffield, Ala., declared.

Second, there must be an improvement in agriculture, he said, and "we must start and encourage better methods of farming," in order to raise the agricultural prosperity.

Then there must be brought into the South the specialized knowledge and technology necessary for industrial expansion.

"This will allow the South to invest its own money into its own industry which will be ten times better than any industry you can bring in from the outside.

Horsfield predicted vastly increased usages of aluminum in three fields, which would take care of the greatly expanded capacity of the industry. One was aluminum foil which can be combined with paper for a hermetically sealed package in which materials can be wrapped to prevent loss by moisture.

Another is the joining of aluminum with steel and wood to produce better building materials, and the third is in the field of transportation in which the use of the metal can render great savings through reduction of weight in automobiles and freight cars with resulting much higher pay loads.

Babson Advises Negroes Against Wasting Money

News-Birmingham, Ala.

Present High Wages Cannot Go On After War, Analyst Thinks

3-19-44

BY ROGER W. BABSON

(c) 1944 by Publisher Financial Bureau, Inc.

I am writing to the several million Negro people in this country. Moreover, I do so as a friend—one who has contributed money and time to help them.

The way you are foolishly spending money today is a shame and disgrace. Not only are most of you now wasting money, but you are almost convicing your friends that you are unworthy to have good wages. You are showing an utter disregard of any knowledge of finances or economics.

Present high wages cannot continue. Many of you will be out of employment after the war. Millions of war workers will be discharged. Therefore, you should save up money now to help you in these hard days ahead. Most white workers are now doing this.

Why So Lazy?

3-19-44

Some of you foolishly refuse to work if you have a little cash in your pockets. This applies to strong men and women as well as to your young people. Too many of you seem to have no regard for the needs of the country in this crucial hour. You are citizens as well as the white workers. You claim you are not treated right. I do not agree to this; but if it is true, it is because so many of you are lazy and wasteful.

I am writing this in the South, where I have worked with Negro people for 20 Winters. I have fought for you and got you out of jail when the sheriff arrested you. I know your good points and weak points; but I never before saw you in the lazy, wasteful and saucy moods that some of you put on today. From letters I get, I fear you are behaving worse in the North than you are in the South.

Depend Upon Aunt

Many of you say, "Aunt Eleanor will take care of me after the war." Perhaps Aunt Eleanor will not be the president's wife after the war. President Roosevelt may not be re-elected. Besides, even Mrs. Roosevelt is getting out of patience with you. She is beginning to wonder if she may not have made a mistake in praising you as she did. It is true that white workers strike when they shouldn't, but they are not lazy nor do they throw away money.

Does it ever occur to you what would happen to our country if all the people—white and Negro—acted as so many of you Negro people act? We would lose the war and we all, including you, would be slaves of the Germans or Japanese. Your attitude simply does not make sense from any point of view. Therefore, as a friend, I beg of you all to get all the work you can get; work as faithfully as you can; and save, save, save!

A True Story

Let me prove that Negro boys have just as good an opportunity to succeed as white boys. A few years ago Webber College at Babson Park, Fla., employed Negro boys in the kitchen. Among them was one named James Paul Goss. The dean noticed that, whereas all the others went to the movies or shot craps in the evening, James practiced for hours to learn typing. When the Summer vacation came, he begged me to take him North and get him a job in an office. This I did. It was James' first opportunity.

3-19-44

James did so well that I brought him back to Florida in the Fall. That Winter he typed all my newspaper columns. In March, 1942, he was drafted. One day an officer asked if anyone of the men could type. James held up his hand. Then he was given his second opportunity. He has not held a gun since that day. He gradually worked into administrative duties. He became a corporal, a sergeant, a second and then a first lieutenant. He now is a captain with savings of $5,000 in bank and life insurance values. When one of his Negro friends was asked why James got on so well he replied: "Well, you know, James does not drink or smoke; he works and saves, and reads his Bible every day." Last week, James was given his third opportunity at Camp Springs Army Airfield, Washington, D. C.

Start Test Case On 'Strange Fruit'

Daily Worker, N.Y.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., April 6 (UP).—The first legal step on a test case involving a police ban on the controversial novel "Strange Fruit" came today in District Court when complaints were issued against a Cambridge bookseller and Bernard De Voto, historian and critic.

Named with De Voto in the complaints was Abraham Isenstadt who sold the book to the noted author in the presence of policemen.

The complants charged De Voto with the "purchase or indecent literature and Iserstadt with the sale and possession of an 'indecent book."

4-7-44

Both men had participated in the "violation" at the request of the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, which sought to determine the legality of a police ban on the book by Lillian Smith.

Group Proclaims Harlem Week

World-Telegram New York, N.Y.

In order to call attention to "Democracy's Unfinished Business," the Citywide Citizens' Committee on Harlem is today inaugurating Harlem Week, which is dedicated to the needs of Harlem.

5-29-44

In stressing the seriousness of the Negro situation, Dorothy Norman, chairman of the Citywide Harlem Week, said: "We must have no riot this summer or ever again. We must have no white supremacy in the North as well as in the South. Above all, we must have no second-class citizenship for anyone."

5-29-44

Algernon T. Black and Assemblyman William T. Andrews, co-chairman of the committee, urged that "segregation and undemocratic practices within the armed forces must cease and enlistment of Negro women in the SPARS, WAVES and Navy nurses must be allowed."

HARLEM WEEK

Times-New York, N.Y.

This week the City-Wide Citizens Committee on Harlem is endeavoring to attract special attention to the problems of those areas in our city where there is a congested Negro population. In such areas, as in most urban districts where housing and related conditions are bad, there is a high rate of crime and juvenile delinquency, a bad health record and a high rate of rejection for military service. No enlightened person supposes that these results are due to the hue of the Negro's skin. They are due to his environment. They occur wherever any population, of any race or of several races, are hemmed in and restricted in their opportunities.

5-31-44

No law says that the Negro should be segregated in New York City. Largely, however, he has been kept apart, and in a multitude of instances he has been compelled to pay higher rent than his white neighbors for a corresponding space. These higher rents have meant overcrowding and all the ills that go with overcrowding.

5-31-44

The Negro in New York City needs a better home. He needs more parks and playgrounds. He needs larger opportunities. He has his problems, like the rest of us, and will continue to have them, but he would not be a problem if discrimination did not make him one. In fact, it is the discrimination itself that is the problem.

One God---One People

Peoples Voice-New York, N.Y.

2-26-44

By BEN RICHARDSON

AT SEVERAL MEETINGS in the last few weeks I have had ocasion to speak to mixed audiences and in the course of my remarks I have repeatedly said there are certain types of people who elicit my unmitigated shame because of their thoroughly anti-social conduct. At a conference of Negro social workers recently the after meeting conversational "Bull Session" addressed itself to a rounded rebuke of the writer for his injudicious statements. Here are the points of fact and conviction in the matter. These views apply to black and white without distinction.

RICHARDSON

CERTAIN FIXED STANDARDS

There are some codes of human conduct that are explained to us early in life and through the years they vary but little. When these mores or traditional patterns of what time and experience have proved to be for the best interest of humanity are violated, the violator brings shame to himself be he white or black. Here are examples recalled from childhood in New York. I was riding home on a crowded subway. A Negro man pushed a Negro woman inordinately hard and she reeled crazily and crashed against another colored passenger.

When she regained her balance she said to the man against whom she fell: "Excuse me please but that man shoved me like he was out of his mind." The gentleman assured her it was all right. The "pusher" was not content. He blurted out, "What's that you said?" The lady did not reply. This further infuriated the beast and he unleashed the most vile torrent of profanity I have yet to hear. The woman remonstrated weakly. Her embarrassment robbed her of all adequate retorts (if there be any for such instances). The man supposed he heard her say something that he could under no circumstances endure and he lashed out and struck her full flush in the face. Blood spurted from a sizeable gash over her left eye . . . She sank sobbing toward the floor but was sustained by white men who stood amazed at the whole procedure. The train had come to a station and the assailant was easily lost in the crowd.

I was not standing at all near the persons involved but the shouting of the attacker could be plainly heard through the entire car. White women gasped in horror and sympathy for womankind . . . black or white. The New York rule of "Mind Your Own Business" kept other riders from getting in the fray. There were no more than three or four Negroes (men and women) scattered through the jammed car . . . and although none did or could make his way to that end of the car before it all ended, each died a thousand deaths of inexpressable chagrin and shame.

OTHER EXAMPLES

2-26-44

I was walking along Park Avenue going south from 125th st. A white man was walking slightly in front of his companion (she may have been his wife) he held her hand in a vise-like grip and strode after her and rammed his foot into the small of her . . . all the while pleading tearfully, "Please John . . . don't . . . you are hurting me." John back above the stoop and summonsed a policeman. I stood there; my eyes didn't give a dam. People stopped and stared . . . white people and forward . . . limp and quivering. The man(?) jumped into a taxi and disappeared.

Several of us hastened to her side, picked her up . . . sat her on colored. It was a show. Some ventured he would soon hit her . . . and they were right. In a moment the man let her hand go with a violent thrust that sent the poor woman staggering down the street. He a nearby stoop and she followed half trotting, half dragging looked after her a second, then as if endowed with new and fiendish rimmed with tears . . . I was sorry for the woman . . . sorry for the

man and ashamed at him for what I knew was a committed evil of immeasurable proportions. These incidents come back to mind clearly although they took place many years ago. When I think of them I am still ashamed. Similar happenings are seen every day in many, many places.

PRODUCTS OF THE SYSTEM

Indeed these characters are to a great extent products of a civilization where none but the rich are free . . . if even they are. Our culture stifles initiative and aborts genius. Discrimination is death to creativity. Jimcro frustrates progress. White and black are enslaved by a common slaver. Yet in the meantime while the fight is being waged for a New World, we who suffer and fight must not give the oppressor reason to further oppress us. We must respect and love one another. Love brings union. We cannot win without it. When Black or White forget these things and offend each other . . . I am ashamed . . . that those in the ranks of the "little people" have forgotten the first law of a soldier of the army of men who will some day be free.

Down Under in Harlem

New Republic - New York, N.Y. 3-27-44

IF YOU ARE WHITE and are reading this vignette, I don't take it for granted that all Harlem is a slum. It isn't. There are big apartment houses up on the hill, Sugar Hill, and up by City College—nice high-rent houses with elevators and doormen, where Canada Lee lives, and W. C. Handy, and the George S. Schuylers, and the Walter Whites, where colored families send their babies to private kindergartens and their youngsters to Ethical Culture School. And, please, white people, don't think that all Negroes are the same. They aren't.

Last year's Harlem riots demonstrated this clearly. Most of the people on Sugar Hill were just as indignant about the riots as was Mayor LaGuardia. Some of them even said the riots put the Negro race back fifty years. But the people who live in the riot area don't make enough money really to afford the high rents and the high prices merchants and landlords charge in Harlem, and most of them are not acquainted personally—as are many Sugar Hillites—with liberals like Pearl Buck and John Haynes Holmes. They have not attended civic banquets at the Astor, or had luncheon with emancipated movie stars at Sardi's. Indeed, the average Harlemite's impression of white folks, democracy and life in general is rather bad.

Naturally, if you live on nice, tree-lined, quiet Convent Avenue, even though you are colored, it would never occur to you to riot and break windows. When some of the colored leaders whose names are often in the white newspapers, came out of their elevator houses and down into Harlem during the riots, to urge, with the best intentions in the world, that the mobs stop breaking windows and go home, lots of the rioters did not even know who they were. And others of them said, "Boo-oo-o! Go home yourself."

It is, I should imagine, nice to be smart enough and lucky enough to be among Dr. DuBois' "talented tenth" and be a race leader and go to the symphony concerts and live on that attractive rise of bluff and parkway along upper Edgecombe Avenue overlooking the Polo Grounds, where the plumbing really works and the ceilings are high and airy. For just a few thousands a year one can live very well on Sugar Hill in a house with a white-tiled hall. 3-27-44

But under the hill on Eighth Avenue, on Lenox, and on Fifth there are places like this—dark, unpleasant houses with steep stairs and narrow halls, where the rooms are too small, the ceilings too low and the rents too high. There are apartments with a dozen names over each bell. The house is full of roomers. Papa and mama sleep in the living room, the kids in the dining room, lodgers in every alcove, and everything but the kitchen is rented out for sleeping. Cooking and meals are rotated in the kitchen.

In vast sections below the hill, neighborhood amusement centers after dark are gin mills, candy stores that sell King Kong (and maybe reefers), drug stores that sell geronimoes—dope tablets—to juveniles for pepping up cokes, pool halls where gambling is wide open and barbecue stands that book numbers. Sometimes, even the grocery stores have their little side rackets without the law. White men, more often than Negroes, own these immoral places where kids as well as grown-ups come.

The kids and the grown-ups are not criminal or low by nature. Poverty, however, and frustration have made some of them too desperate to be decent. Some of them don't try any more. Slum-shocked, I reckon.

One Saturday night last winter, I went into a barbecue stand where the juke-box was loud and the air thick with smoke. At the tables there were mostly young folks—nice, not very pretty girls dressed in their best, with young men who had cleaned up after work. Some of the young men still wore their last spring's artificial camel's-hair coats—a top coat in winter with the snow outside—but they were trying to look nice, to be nice in the Harlem slums.

A half-dozen teen-age boys came in and stood around listening to the records on the juke-box. Shortly, a quarrel began among them. Almost immediately knives were drawn and switch-blades flashed, and one youngster let a blackjack a foot long slide out of his sleeve.

The woman at the counter who served my sandwich said, "Somebody ought to call the cops." (As though cops could solve the problems of poverty and delinquency in Harlem.) The white proprietor behind the beer bar paid no attention to the turmoil. Short of murder or destruction, white proprietors in Harlem seldom mix in Negro squabbles—just as they never belong to neighborhood committees to improve conditions, either.

"I just don't want 'em to fight in here," the woman said, "that's all!"

The boys didn't fight. They simply milled around, showed their weapons, bluffed and cursed each other. But their language frightened some of the quiet, not-very-pretty girls at the tables with the young men in their thin near-camel's-hair coats, out on a Saturday night trying to look nice and have a nice quiet time.

Louis Jordan on the juke-box, loud. Over the music the woman behind the counter said, "This time of night, all these young boys ought to be home."

"That's right," I said. 3-27-44

Home. A dozen names on the bell. Roomers all over the house. No place for a kid to bring his friends. Only the pool halls open, the candy stores that bootleg liquor, the barbecue stands where you can listen to the juke-box even if you're broke and don't want to buy anything, and the long Harlem streets outside dimmed out because Hitler might send his planes overhead some dark night.

Should the planes come, their bombs most certainly would be louder than the juke-boxes, and their flying fragments of metal sharper than the cheap steel of drug-store switch-blades in the hands of kids who have no homes where they can bring their friends. A piece of bomb can hit harder than a boy with a blackjack up his sleeve.

Hitler in Berlin. Bad kids in Harlem. Indignation in the Mayor's office. Also on Sugar Hill. Louis Jordan's records:

I'm gonna move . . .
. . . outskirts of town . . .

Barbecued ribs, a quarter. Sign:

DON'T ASK FOR CREDIT—HE'S DEAD!!!

Riots. Long discussions downtown about forming more committees to make more surveys for more reports for more detailed study by more politicians before taking action on conditions in Harlem.

Sign over the barbecue counter:

WE CAN'T PAY OUR BILLS WITH TRUST!
CAN YOU?

That sign, of course, is in reference to credit for sandwiches. It has nothing to do with the democratic system. It simply means that if you haven't got a quarter, you don't eat. There has been a sort of permanent scarcity of quarters in Harlem, so that sign might very well serve the committees as a motto for their surveys.

LANGSTON HUGHES

66a-1944

Housing

SOCIAL-MINDED EXECUTIVE

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
4-29-44

OSCAR C. BROWN

Experiences In South Shaped Brown's Career

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
4-29-44

By DETON J. BROOKS, Jr.

If you have never lived South, it may be hard for you to understand a man like Oscar C. Brown, brilliant lawyer, and business executive, who now manages one of Uncle Sam's largest housing projects.

His life might portray a series of contradictions if you are unfamiliar with his background. But if you had lived your first 17 years in Arkansas and Mississippi and had to struggle like he did to rise above a philosophy designed to "keep all Negroes down," then these apparent contradictions would not seem so bewildering.

If you want to intimately know Brown, stop time and jump back some 35 years to the little town of Edwards, Miss., where he was reared. Ride with him one balmy summer day up a winding country lane towards a big plantation on the laundry wagon which he drove to pick up the white folks' dirty bundles. You pass a black carriage hitched to a sleek black horse leisurely ambling up the same road, carrying a well-dressed southern gentleman and his lady.

Told He Was Wrong

Before you and Oscar in the laundry wagon can go much further, the carriage cuts in front of you and the "gentleman" orders you to get down saying, "Don't you know niggers aren't supposed to pass white folks on the road?"

You try to explain to the white "gentleman" that you are going to his plantation to get his laundry for the white company for which you work. But your explanation falls on deaf ears. His final admonition is, "That don't make no difference. There ain't no reason for a nigger ever to pass a white man. Remember that."

Well if you are like Brown, you don't get mad and filled with hate. You make up your mind to leave the South as soon as you can. And way deep down inside you make a calm resolve that you are going to intelligently do something about these conditions when you have equipped yourself with a decent education. 4-29-44

At seventeen, Oscar left Edwards, going to Howard university where he entered the high school department. It didn't take him long to realize that he was the least prepared of any of the students in his class. At home he had learned to read and write and do a little arithmetic, but that was about all. School for Negroes in Edwards lasted less than six month a year And there was no high school. The rest of the year colored children were supposed to work, picking cotton or in the mills and gins.

Background Very Poor

So when he got to Howard, even though his father was the teacher as well as the town's leading Baptist minister, and helped him as much as he could, he found that he was far behind the other students. But Oscar was determined to correct this condition as soon as he could. He did so well that he finished his high school work in three years. 4-29-44

After a year in college, World War I broke out and he left in the summer of 1917 to attend the first Negro officers' training school at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. He received such a high rating when he was commissioned a first lieutenant, he was selected as adjutant to assist in the mobilization of the 351st machine gun battalion of the famous 92nd division.

He fought with this outfit in the bloody battles of the Voges, the Argonne, and when fighting ceased on November 11, 1918, his unit, as part of the 92nd division, was poised before Metz for another grand assault.

Returns To School

When he returned to the United States in 1919, he immediately reentered Howard and accomplished the unheard of feat of finishing three years' work for his A.B. degree in one year. And he did this while receiving top scholastic honors. The next year he received his B.S. in Commerce and in 1922 his bachelor of law degree. Both of these degrees were given Cum Laude (with honor). 4-29-44

While he was making spectacular record in scholarship, he still found time to become a member of the varsity debating team and to organize the first Howard University chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In organizing this chapter he was coming close to his boyhood pledge, "To do something intelligent about the race problem as soon as he had sufficient training to do so."

After graduation from law school he managed some business enterprises in the South for a while and then in 1925 came to Chicago where he accepted a position with the Douglass National Bank which at that time was the pride of the southside.

He stayed there until 1929, being business manager of the bank for three years. Then, until 1940, he practiced law in the firm of Brown, Brown and Cyrus. But he was restless. He craved to be in the thick of the battle for the fight for Negro rights. He took graduate courses in sociology at the University of Chicago so that he could better orient his own social philosophy. He did graduate work at Northwestern University School of Commerce so that he would better be qualified to handle a major executive assignment in the interest of the masses. 4-29-44

Big Opportunity

Then in 1940 the big opportunity for which his preparation qualified, presented itself. A well-trained business executive with a deep knowlede of the problems of under-privileged masses was needed to manage the newly-built Ida B. Wells Housing Project. At that time the average income of the people who were to reside there was $60 per month per family, a great number of whom were on relief.

Conditions have changed now. These people have fought their way up from the bottom of the economic heap, and a great deal of credit goes to Brown who could understand their problems when they needed help.

Ida B. Wells has been so efficiently managed—it is considered one of the best operated in the entire country—that Brown has only recently been appointed to handle the new Altgeld Gardens Project which is being built at 130th and Langley avenue. At the same time he will be retained as supervising manager of Ida B. Wells. 4-29-44

He hasn't let the NAACP down either. Some few years ago he was asked to manage the membership campaign for the local chapter. There were less than a thousand members at that time. Today there are more than ten thousand. In recognition of this accomplishment the membership has elected him president for the past two years.

Oscar Brown's career may be contradictory—he's an excellent lawyer who prefers not practicing law—he's a business executive who uses his talent for the benefit of the masses of his race rather than to make money—but it's the type of contradiction that makes sense.

It's a contradiction based upon an admirable social philosophy.

Facts for Victory

Daily Worker
12-30-44

IN PREPARING material for our next Labor Fact Book we have been looking into the subject of housing and especially into what the government has done for the Negroes in this field.

Figures we have brought together must be read against the background fact that little has yet been done to break down the policy of segregation. In Pacific coast cities and certain other war production centers, the Negro population has doubled. Yet segregation has often attempted to confine this increased number to the previous Negro areas, already overcrowded. 12-30-44

More than 10 percent of all publicly-financed war housing in the country as a whole was programmed for Negro occupancy. This includes both the units built especially for Negroes and those actually occupied by Negroes in other projects.

By the end of last September, about 82 percent of all the wartime housing units available for Negroes.

BESIDES the publicly-financed war housing there has been a little privately-financed Negro housing backed by the Federal Housing Administration which guarantees bank loans for building purposes. Only 3 percent of all these housing units programmed up to March, 1944, were for Negro occupancy, and of these only a third, or about 5,000 units, were actually completed or under contract at that date.

One of the most difficult situations exists on the west coast where only about 21,000 units of publicly-financed war housing, either temporary or permanent, have been made available for Negroes. Carey McWilliams, commissioner of immigration and housing for California, estimated recently that about 250,000 Negroes had moved to the west coast since Pearl Harbor.

Actual figures, however, in view of the unlimited need, are not so arresting. For 79,121 dwelling units of publicly-financed housing had been programmed for Negroes.

Of this publicly-financed housing for Negroes, only about one-third consists of permanent family units which will continue in former service after the war. But these 25,000 or more family dwellings seem more significant.

by Labor Research Assn.

coast during the war period and that at least 85 percent of them intended to stay there after the war.

Wartime Housing for Negroes Shows Serious Postwar Needs

UNFORTUNATELY, however, almost 92 percent of the publicly-financed housing provided for them in the west coast region during the war has been of a temporary character. Furthermore, nearly three-fourths of the west coast permanent housing built for Negroes is located in Los Angeles. But other evidence indicates that the heaviest concentration of the Negro wartime population is in the San Francisco Bay area.

Similar unbalanced situations are reported from the Detroit and other war-industry areas.

Apparently the Federal Public Housing Authority has tended to break down segregation except in the southern states. On the other hand the other agency, the Federal Housing Administration, has too often served not only to condone but to reinforce segregation through the encouragement of restrictive covenants and other discriminatory practices.

12-30-44

The FHA has justified this position on the theory that the maintenance of these covenants is necessary to insure its financial risk in guaranteeing mortgages on this type of housing.

Since most of the permanent housing erected during the war has been privately financed, and most of that to be put up in the postwar period will be of the same type, it is of the utmost importance that this FHA policy be changed in the interest of better housing for the Negro people.

Negroes Prove A Good Risk

Informer-Houston, Texas

11-18-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) —Exploding a number of long accepted generalities, in which the Federal Housing Agency has been a guilty participant, the National Association of Real Estate Boards said this week that surveys of the Negro housing question by local real estate boards indicated that the provision of good housing for Negroes can be carried out as a sound business operation and that the Negro family that wants good housing is usually a good economic risk.

Meets Payment

Realtors with experience in Negro housing reported to the Association that as a class, the Negro home buyer meets his payments faithfully — often more faithfully than other race groups in the same economic level— and that if his property is in good repair when he obtains it, he takes care of it after he buys it. As a tenant, he takes as good care of such premises as other tenants of his economic class.

11-18-44

Better Housing Program

The Association recently launched a move to encourage better housing for Negroes. It urged real estate boards throughout the country to attempt to work out local programs in their communities for better Negro housing and is seeking to encourage greater interest in good Negro housing among builders and financing institutions. The association said that it was developing its program as a business matter, based on an economic opportunity, and that it was not approaching the question from a reform standpoint.

For example, a majority of the Relators with Negro housing experience reported that there is no reason why insurance companies should not purchase mortgages on properly located and managed property to be occupied by Negroes. No explanation was given, however, of what was meant by "properly located" property. Finding suitable sites has been one of the bugaboos of Negro housing development, due largely to the FHA policy of fostering restrictive covenants.

The study of Negro housing experience was made in 18 representative cities. In addition the semi-annual survey by NAREB conducted through member boards showed 147 cities out of 330, or 42 per cent, reporting better Negro housing as a pressing need. Fifty-one per cent of the 147 cities confronted with the problem have "action under way" to meet it. The shortage of all types of Negro housing was shown by the NAREB survey to be acute. The war has greatly widened the number of cities for which Negro housing is a real and immediate problem.

The Association announced the general opinions of the reporting boards as follows:

Seventeen out of 18 cities answered "yes" to the question: "Does the Negro make a good home buyer and carry through his purchase to completion?"

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Thirteen out of 18 answered "yes" to the question: "Does he take care of his property if it is in good repair when he obtained it?"

Eleven out of 18 answered "yes" to the question: "Does he take as good care of property as other tenants of a comparable status?"

NAACP demands recall of WPB representative

Tribune, Los Angeles, Calif.

11-13-44

NEW YORK—Acting upon complaints from branches in Portland, Seattle, and other cities on the West coast, the NAACP last week demanded the immediate recall of George W. Streator, labor relations representative of the Office of Labor Production, War Production Board, from that area. Streator has been traveling through Oregon, Washington and other western states in his capacity as labor representative. It is reported, however, that he, working closely with local housing authorities and Naval officials, has been speaking against the occupancy by Negroes of Federal War Housing projects, particularly those in Portland and Seattle.

In a telegram to Julius A. Krug chairman of WPB, the NAACP declared "Negroes are being arbitrarily barred from occupancy of urgently needed War Housing in areas although units are now standing vacant. Streator is quoted as speaking in favor of this discrimination, declaring that even now 'Negroes have better housing than they came from and should be thankful'."

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Streator has shown bitter resentment of Negroes all along by his outspoken support of Jim Crow auxiliary labor units, the NAACP declared. A representative of the Washington bureau was informed by Joseph Keenan, vice-chairman of WPB under whom Streator works, that the present charges are being investigated and, if substantiated, will result in Streator's immediate withdrawal from the area.

Ford's hometown fights Negro housing project

Los Angeles Tribune, Cal.

12-9-44

DETROIT—Negroes of Michigan are shocked and aroused by the action of the mayor and city council of Dearborn, home of Henry Ford, in protesting the proposed Federal Government move to establish a Negro housing project in that city.

A resolution was unanimously adopted at a meeting in opposition to what was termed a decision by the FPHA to locate a 400-unit project near Dearborn, convenient to the Ford River Rouge plant.

The protest was forwarded to members of Congress. Mayor Orville L. Hubbard urged every Dearborn resident to mail a card of protest to the U. S. senators and representatives from Michigan.

SAYS NO DECISION YET

Returning to Detroit Tuesday from a conference in Washington, D. C., George Schermer, area representative of the Federal Public Housing Authority, issued a statement regarding the selection of a site for temporary war housing for Negro war workers in Dearborn. In part, he said:

"No conclusion has been reached to build in Dearborn and pending a decision on the studies, no formal proposal is being submitted to the Dearborn city council."

In his statement Tuesday, Mr. Schermer further declared:

"The National Housing Agency, at the request of the FPHA, has reviewed the need for 400 temporary dwelling accommodations for in-migrant workers in the Detroit area and has affirmed that it is essential to war requirements to build these units. Dearborn is being considered as a location for this war housing although a thorough study continues of possible alternative locations. The problem of providing shelter for in-migrant war workers is metropolitan area-wide, involving all communities, including Dearborn, and on that basis consideration of sites in Dearborn is completely justified.

"The suggestion that a site be developed in Dearborn grows out of the fact that not less than 12,000 Negro war workers commute to and from there daily from other municipalities of the Detroit metropolitan area. While Detroit, Ecorse, Inkster, River Rouge and Royal Oak township have absorbed all of the publicly financed unrestricted housing for war workers up to this point, Dearborn has none."

Metropolitan Insurance company's jim crow housing projects in New York. The Metropolitan is perhaps the most popular insurance company among Negroes.

7-29-44

WORLD LABOR CONFERENCE

Rumor has it that the World Labor Conference, scheduled to meet in London June 5th may come to Canada or the United States instead, because of the impending second front.

The gathering has been called by the British Trade Union Congress to hammer out a post-war program for labor — black and white and colonial -throughout the United Nations and the Dependent Territories. The CIO will send delegates. The AFL, though invited, refused to participate with the workers of our most powerful ally —the Soviet Union.

7-29-44

factory or large in- The AFL, though invited, refused
steel, automobiles, to participate with the workers of
housing projects for our most powerful ally —the So-
comfortable ac- viet Union.

7-29-44

actory. Rents were Off the record there is a strong
income of individual current mong CIO and AFL rank
per cent of the oc- and file workers t odraft A. Phil-
c. (We pay from 25 ip Randolph to attend as an ob-
to 40 per cent.) server. Mr. Randolph has established himself as a courageous, independent spokesman of labor. He enjoys the respect and confidence of Negro and white labor, even Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Negro though points of disagreement persist, won a victory in finance committee, ending racial bars in future public projects. This is a continuation of the fight against the

Won Victory

Recently in New York City's Council, Councilman Stanley

In Russia each factory or large industrial unit— steel, automobiles, etc., developed housing projects for employees within comfortable ac-

The Negro Worker - Today And Tomorrow

Informer-Houston, Texas

7-29-44

By THYRA EDWARDS

HOUSING

labor government built thousands of dwelling units —modern, light, with beautiful gardens, recreation halls, laundries and clinics, as a public utility, paid for out of tax-

Decent homes at rents commen- es just as schools and parks are.
surate with wages has been a plank Rental was nominal, often as low
in organized labor's platform in as $1.50 a month to cover main-
every country in the world where tenance, light and water.
factories and unions exist.

In England similar projects,

In Vienna, after World War I, a with less beauty, called borough
(City Council) houses were built.

Housing For Negroes Discussed Before Council Committee

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

12-23-44

CINCINNATI, Ohio — (SNS) — In an unprecedented hearing on housing needs, particularly those affecting the low income group, Mr. Theodore M. Berry, president of the Cincinnati Chapter of the NAACP and chairman of the Housing Committee of the Division of Negro Welfare, discussed the issues. Excerpts from Mr. Berry's presentation follow:

"The problem of housing in Cincinnati is serious; it has all the symptoms of a milignant disease which is becoming progressively worse and producing various social complications in our community life. The degree to which it affects the Negro citizenry is grievous and presents conditions which require forthright action. The gravity of the situation prompted the Cincinnati Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People last August to request Councilman Jesse D. Locker "to introduce an appropriate measure for a study of municipal housing regulations and machinery for enforcement; and a complete survey of housing conditions in the basin of the City for determination of proper remedial steps to be undertaken by the City and other authorities."

"Housing problems have their racial aspect because social custom and economic practice create it. Negro citizens have traditionally been shunted to districts which are oldest and least desirable. Hence, while housing is an ill which affects the community as a whole, white and colored alike, the Negro citizen to a larger degree suffers because of practices which seek to confine him to restricted areas.

12-23-44

"What is to be done to correct these ills?

"So far as we know Cincinnati has no well defined housing program for the years following the war.

"Will homes be built for the Negro market and thus break the custom of leaving only second-hand worn out houses for Negro purchasers.

"Will anything be done for those who cannot afford, or for other reasons, would not be able to buy homes?

"What do we intend to do about the slums? What hope is there for those Negro and White families whose income is too low to pay the economic cost of decent housing?

"What are we willing to do to eliminate restrictive convenants and other practices which make for racial ghettoes and prevent the free use of vacant land to relieve congestion?

12-23-44

"We asked some months ago that a thorough-going survey of Negro housing be made. We have since learned that a proposal has been made that the City Planning Commission undertake a searching Housing Market Analysis. Such an analysis would gather all the essential facts about housing, would study all slums and blighted areas, would determine what the market needs are—in other words, how many homes at various prices should be built for sale over the next several years and how many should be provided for rent and at what rentals, how much for white and how much for Negro families. Since planning and housing are so closely related and since the City Planning Commission and its Master Planning Division are already in possession of valuable data, and in fact, plan to study at some time most of the problems involved in such an analysis, we believe it best that the Planning Commission make the study, provided it covers the Negro housing problem as well as the white. It is our understanding that if the City Planning Commission decides that it can properly undertake such an analysis, it will be necessary to have a sufficient fund to do a satisfactory job. We earnestly hope that the City Council, if such a request comes before it, will provide the necessary money.

"We should like to present some of the things we feel need to be done.

12-23-44

"Housing Legislation—Bad conditions in our old unsanitary tenements have existed too long. The regulations in the Building Code must be strengthened. We must be able to get rid of unfit tenements more readily. The Building Department should have power to outlaw outdoor toilets within a reasonable period. Other essential sanitary equipment should be required. We should have an intelligent provision in our Building Code dealing with room overcrowding, which is a particularly provision at present. We should have a provision in the law that if an owner refuses to make repairs required by the Building Code, the city after a reasonable time shall have the power to make the repairs and assess the cost against the owner.

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"We emphasize again the point that even with better regulations, legislation is not the answer. Our tenements are on the average of 70 years old. They are fast wearing out. We must not only get rid of the slums but somehow sufficient new housing of decent standard must be provided for all groups of our population.

Slum Elimination—"When it comes to slum areas that ought to re-house low income families the evidence is clear that private enterprise, even with the aids just suggested, cannot provide the housing at rents within the means of the low income families needing it. Nowhere in the wold has it been possible to house really low income families in decent dwellings except through public housing. The greatest benefit that has come to our people in recent years so far as housing is concerned has been the public housing problem. It has provided nearly two thousand excellent homes with rents so graded that a family of very low income can be accommodated. How keenly this housing is appreciated is shown by the fact that Lincoln Court Project has a waiting list of more than a thousand families. There is almost never a vacancy.

"We must have more of this kind of housing. Of course, we want private enterprise to build for all our people that can afford the housing they build. We wish to emphasize further that clearing slum areas and building housing on slum cleared land is not enough. There must be some additional housing for Negro families. Good shelter is more than bricks and mortar. There must be plenty of space for play and for light and air. One of the great curses of our West End is the congestion. It would be the utmost in folly to rehouse just as many families as were there before on slum cleared cities. Besides, some slum areas should be used for other purposes—parks, playgrounds, businesses, industry. If we place fewer families back on the same site, as we must, then it seem clear enough there must be some additional housing and that it must be on vacant land.

12-23-44

"But now we can have no more public housing in Ohio because our State Supreme Court has said that public housing is a private use, not a public use, and must pay full taxes. Public housing has to be subsidized to provide a sufficiently low rental. The Congress of the United States has said that it will provide a part of the subsidy but that the local community must pay a part. This has been done by partial tax exemption. Since there can be no more tax exemption, obviously no more Federal funds will be available in Ohio until something is done. There is excellent prospect that the United States Supreme Court will reverse the Ohio decision, but a law which lends itself so easily to dual interpretation should be corrected. We believe the City Council should urge the State Legislature to amend the State Housing Act to make clear the Legislature's intent that public housing authorities may enter into agreements with local communities to make a payment in lieu of full taxes.

CONCLUSION

12-23-44

"We earnestly hope that this committee and the City Council as a whole will give this critical situation the attenion it deserves. The home is the heart of the world. From it more than from any other institution comes good or ill to bless or curse our community. Thousands of Cincinnati boys, Negro and white, are making great sacrifices today on the far-flung battle fronts. All too many of them formerly lived in dismal, unsanitary shacks and tenements. We hope they will not come back to find we have no plans that will offer them something better than slums to live in during the years to come."

Also discussing the issues were Mr. Bleecker Marquette of the Better Housing League and the Public Health Federation, who agreed with the material given by Mr. Berry and stated that tuberculosis is on the decrease but syphilis is on the increase. He related the health problems to the housing needs and stated that there are all types of landlords—good, bad, and indifferent—many of whom are taking advantage of the war situation to prevent making needed repairs.

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Alfred Bettman, chairman of the committee working on the master plan for Cincinnati, stated that housing of low income groups is a part of the total master plan of Cincinnati. The master plan will include a market study and urban redevelopment.

The Rev. M. J. Franklin Walker spoke of the needs and related them to the parishioner and average citizen and agreed in the basic facts with Mr. Berry.

Mr. Sagmeister stated that the industrial basin of the area has 125,000 people in it of which 1/3 are Negroes. 27,000 of Cincinnati's population is in one-sixteenth percent of its area. Prior to the depression, the office of the Building Commission was able to effect legislation which would cause all people to remove from attics and basements. These standards have had to be relaxed, however, due to the dearth of vacancies available. The department is still insisting upon the enforcement of safety and sanitation within reason, while the problems of adequate maintenance is suffering.

Mr. Garties of the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority gave a review of the tax situation relating to Lincoln Court and Laurel Homes showing that public housing was paying approximately $1.44 per dwelling unit per month, in comparison with surrounding taxation per unit varying from $1.05 to $1.61. To the question from Mr. Berry as to the recent ratproofing ordinance, he was informed by Councilman Cash that the enforcement of this law would be in the Department of Health and would have provisions for enforcement, including the Health Department's actually effecting the changes and forcing the landlord to pay for it.

12-23-44

In summarization, Bleecker Marquette stated that the master plan undoubtedly would alleviate the situation somewhat. Mr. Sagmeister's office is working on the Building Code and will submit plans later while private enterprise must build if they can, but if they cannot or will not build, they should admit it and work for the effective housing of the low income group. It was likewise recommended that a citizen's committee be named to make an impartial review of the Building Code.

Housing Officials Meet In Memphis

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-1-44

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Commissioners and directors from 50 housing authorities, in seven states from the fifth annual Southeastern Housing Officials' conference, which has been held in Memphis, Tenn.—Commissioner Re-Chicago. The council is one of nine such area groups affiliated with the National Association of Housing Officials. The delegates came from North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. Organization representatives at the sessions Thursday, March 22, 23 and 24 were: Dr. Frank S. Prominent among colored managers and advisers at the sessions Friday, March 23 were: Dr. Frank S. Horne, director of the council's housing division, and Robert C. Weaver, chief of the negro housing section. Both are in Washington, D. C. Meetings were held in Peabody hotel, ing the council have the responsi-last week

Horne, racial adviser for the Public Housing office, Washington, D. C.; A. L. Thompson, race relations adviser from Atlanta, Ga.; Commissioner C. L. Ennix, from Nashville, as well as Jacob R. Henderson, Annie Ruth Hill and Lucius Smith, from Atlanta; Ella James and William Thomas, from Columbus, Ga.; E. M. Burnett, from Wilmington, N. C.; M. A. Entzminger, from Columbia, S. C.; M. K. Muckelduff, from Spartansburg, S. C.; A. J. Ferrell, from Tampa, Fla.; A. B. White and O. E. Adams, from Birmingham, Ala.; T. C. O'Neil, from McComb, Miss.; Eugene Kemp, from Miami, Fla.; William H. Holt, Knoxville, Tenn.; Jasper Horne and W. Jervey Montgomery, Nashville; Thomas Fuller, Jr., Henry Oates and William F. Nabors, all of Memphis.

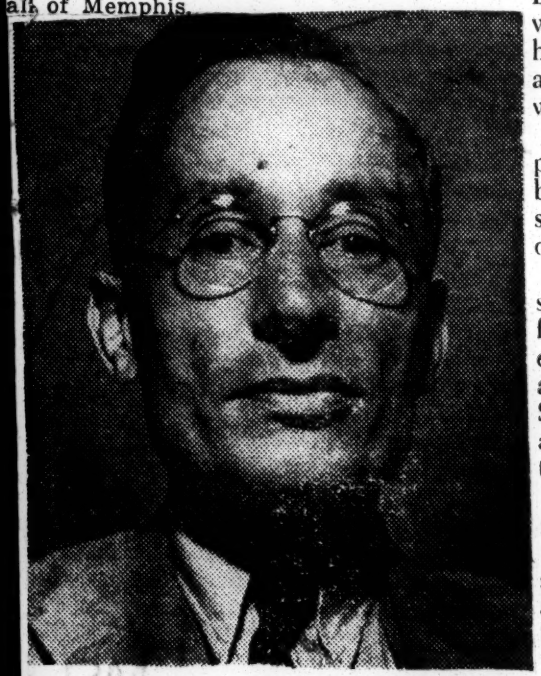

PHOTO BY JEAN EVANS

The Harlem Ashram's Rev Jay Smith

We visit the Harlem Ashram

THE CITY DESK got a news tip a while ago about a racial clash in Harlem. City took care of the news angle, but passed on to us some quotes from the tipster. The voice on the phone had said that two white clergymen "who dwell in the Harlem Ashram" had befriended Negroes in the clash and that these two clergymen lived "the adventure of applying the way of Jesus and Gandhi to the struggle for racial justice."

The clergymen sounded interesting in their own right, and we were curious to find out just what went on in an Ashram.

Before starting for 2013 Fifth Ave. (near 125th Street) the address given us for the Ashram, we looked the word up in Webster's. It wasn't there, but we did find *ashrama*, a Hinduism meaning *a hermitage*.

The Fifth Avenue address turned out to be that of a dilapidated tenement building, old but clean. A sign by a door at our left in the broad, gloomy hallway read. *Harlem Ashram*, so we rang the bell

Indian flag

That door was buzzed open and we went into a gloomier hall and up a flight of narrow, carpeted stairs. At a bend in the stairs, where it was so dark we could scarcely see, was a sign saying *Abandon All Race and Class Distinction Ye Who Enter Here*.

When we reached the top of the stairs we were in a bright, sparsely furnished alcove where we were greeted by a thin, sallow-skinned man with pale blue eyes. He said he was the Rev. Jay Holmes Smith and that his colleague, the Rev. Walter B. Bullen, "the oldest of our number," was out of town. The Rev. Mr. Smith said he would be glad to answer any questions and led us into the living room of what was an eight-room duplex apartment.

On a worn, faded rug, stood an upright piano with some hymn books on it, a bookcase holding more hymn books and some theological literature, a huge rolltop desk and several chairs.

All this was drab, but there also was a studio couch covered with a brightly-flowered chintz, an American flag that covered an entire wall and, on another wall a green, orange and white flag, which Mr. Smith told us was the Indian national flag, and a red, white and blue flag he said was the Puerto Rican national flag.

We asked Mr. Smith if *ashram* were the same as Webster's *ashrama*.

He gave us a piously kindly look and said softly that it was that the word had a solemn meaning and that the ashram had been an institution in India for years.

"For all practical purposes," he went on, "we might say that it is a religious, co-operative fellowship, a home where men and women live and work together for the good of all."

The Harlem Ashram, he explained, had been founded four years ago, had five full-time members and several members who contrib[illegible] to the upkeep of the apartment, but lived elsewhere.

The full-time members worked at various jobs, earning only enough to keep the apartment going and devoting their time to *causes*—the Free India Committee, the American League for Puerto Rican Freedom (now being formed), the Congress of Racial Equality.

We were curious about the Hindu and Indian mentions that had come up and asked Mr. Smith about that. That led him back into his life.

When he was 18 he left the home of his father, a school superintendent in Ohio, and "became a prodigal son for four years." He was a small-time gambler and bootlegger, he said, until one night his father found him "in a joint down in the underworld," and took him home again. After going through theological school he went to India as a missionary, where he remained nine years and learned to admire Gandhi and his methods.

The cause to which Mr. Smith is devoting most attention now, he says, is the Congress of Racial Equality. That is a cause, he feels, that will grow in importance in the postwar period when pressure for jobs increases.

The Congress, he said, had branches in seven cities, the largest branch being in Columbus, Ohio. "The New York branch has 50 adherents now, but only 30 definite members.

Non-violent resistance

"The organization does not have a religious basis, but it functions on the basis of direct non-violent action. That does not mean non-resistance; we certainly resist injustices against ourselves and our fellowmen. But we resist peaceably."

He said members functioned individually as well as in groups. As an example of the individual's functioning he told about a Negro member of the Congress who is on a speaking tour in the South.

"Probably, by this time," he said, "he has defied the Jim Crow law on some train or bus. He will not quarrel. He will not use rough language. He will be courteous and reasonable, no matter what happens. If he is arrested, he will gladly take the consequences."

As a group, he continued, the organization pickets hotels, restaurants and business firms that practice discrimination, issues educational literature, attends mass meetings and otherwise co-operates with other anti-discrimination organizations.

But all this, he said, was as nothing compared with the experience 12 Negro and white members of the Ashram had when they went on a 14-day interracial pilgrimage two years ago. They walked from the Harlem Y to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington where they held "rededication services to the unfinished task of emancipation."

It was then, he said feelingly, that their strength was tried and found not wanting.

"We were just outside of Baltimore, walking along the highway, single file, about 6 feet apart. Each carried his anti-discrimination poster. It was a clear, lovely day, about noontime, and we sang as we walked.

Why they walked

"The first warning we had of hostilities, was when a boulder, about the size of my fist"—he showed us—"came hurtling toward us. Then came another, and another. One of them hit a poster, but we were not dismayed. Then a car stopped and four tough whites—they were partly under the influence," he smiled, "got out. They shouted. They broke the necks off beer bottles so as to present the jagged edge. One of the men, I believe he was the leader, cut his hand and was bleeding somewhat. This gave us an opportunity to swarm around him, to offer our sympathy and insist upon giving first aid."

The man, he went on, refused first aid and joined the others in smashing posters.

"They pushed some of our people about, but we reasoned with them. We met them," he said proudly, "in the spirit that we had determined upon before starting on this pilgrimage. Some harsh words were spoken by a hot-headed Southerner. One of our company, a Negro, rebuked him, gently telling him he was violating the code of a Southern gentleman in swearing before ladies. I believe," he said thoughtfully, "that we had the steam pretty much out of their effort to attack us when the highway police came. We told the policemen that these men had done us no harm. Later, we telephoned the police to make sure these men would not be prosecuted."

We wanted to know why they couldn't have gone by train or bus.

Mr. Smith put his fingertips together and pondered. Then he smiled.

"Partly for the adventure of it," he said, "but mainly to show the depth of our concern. We were willing to walk those 240 miles, every inch of the way, to show the depth of our concern."

Maude Pickett's reply

We asked Mr. Smith if his philosophy of non-violence extended to the war. He said it did.

"We of the Ashram," he said, "are pacifist, but I want it clearly understood, we are not isolationist. We want a brotherhood of *man*."

We were asking Mr. Smith how he thought violence such as the people of China had suffered at the hands of Japan, and the people of Europe at Hitler's hands, could be answered with non-violence, when a tall, lean woman of about 30, wearing a dark skirt and blouse, and absolutely no make-up, came in and said lunch was ready. Mr. Smith introduced her as Maude Pickett, ex-school teacher and manager of the Ashram. Over our luncheon of boiled soy beans, cabbage, bread, margarine and corn syrup, we repeated our question. Maude Pickett, whose voice was stronger and whose manner was more aggressive than Mr. Smith's, answered us.

"Say the world is a road up a mountain," she said. "Cars go racing up that road. Every now and then one of them goes through the fence. It is not enough," she said, "to rescue those who have gone through the fence into the ravine. It is not enough to build another makeshift fence. The people must be taught how to build good fences, good roads, and how to drive cars properly."

Garages and Warehouses Made Into Dwellings

Chicago Southside Gets 400 Units

11-24-44

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — Abandoned warehouses and garages on Chicago's southside were recently converted into living quarters which will supply a total quota of 400 apartment houses, the National Housing Agency announced last week. Tenants are expected to occupy these projects houses in the next few weeks.

One reconstructed warehouse was converted into two and three room apartments at a cost of $78,000. The 22 modern apartments will rent at from $35 to $42 per month.

An abandoned garage was made into an 11-unit building while another warehouse was converted into 58 modern apartments. An old temple made 105 apartments.

Repair work on these buildings was done by the government which leased the buildings from their owners at a period ranging from seven to 12 years. Property owners who receive a token payment of $1 per year will regain full possession of their property together with the government improvement at the end of the lease.

National Association Of Real Estate Bds.

New York, N.Y.

Okays Negro Housing

New York Age

WASHINGTON, D. C. The The National Association of Real Estate Boards said Wednesday that surveys of the Negro housing question by local real estate boards indicated that the provision of good housing for Negroes can be carried out a a sound business operation and that the Negro family that wants good housing is usually a good economic risk. 11-25-44

Realtors with experience in Negro housing reported to the Association that as a class, the Negro home buyer meets his payments faithfully—often more faithfully than other race groups in the same economic level—and that if his property is in good repair when he obtains it, he takes care of it after he buys it. As a tenant, he takes as good care of such premises as other tenants of his economic class.

The Association recently launched a move to encourage better housing for Negroes. It urged real estate boards throughout the country to attempt to work out local programs in their communities for better Negro housing, and is seeking to encourage greater interest in good Negro housing among builders and financing institutions. The association said that it was developing its program as a business matter, based on an economic opportunity, and that it was not approaching the question from a reform standpoint.

The study is part of that effort, and exploded a number of long accepted generalities that have tended to discourage entry into the Negro housing field.

New York Age---11-25-44

Renovated Slums Don't Pay, Harlem Experience Shows

By LOUISE MITCHELL

Ask the man who manages one how successful it is to run a rehabilitated slum tenement, if you really want to know whether Mayor LaGuardia's plan to grant a 10-vear tax exemption to owners of old-law houses will work. Clifford L. Alexander, head of the Urban Housing Management Association, Inc., in charge of 42 renovated houses in Harlem, said yesterday that the city's 10,000 old-law houses are not worth an extensive overhauling job and ought to be demolished as soon as possible.

Any renovation planned should not exceed five years, Alexander explained. Ten years is too long a lease on life for some of these dilapidated houses.

Once a group of slums are improved ever so slightly, he said, it is hard to assemble a property bloc for a project. This only tends to delay overall redevelopment.

"Besides," Alexander pointed out, "those obsolete houses can never be improved to provide proper light and air. Without these essential to decent living they can never really

Alexander adds his experience to

Alexander adds his experience to that of the City Housing Authority, which has already stressed that renovation of old tenements doesn't pay. When the first city projects were built and some tenements were renovated to house displaced tenants the Housing Authority found that renovation wasn't worth the money it cost.

NEGRO ENTERPRISE

The Urban Housing Management Association has been operating in Harlem for just one year. It is a non-profit corporation, organized to encourage Negro enterprise in housing management and to promote better living conditions. It takes the callous edge off tenant-landlord relationship. Sponsored by the New York Urban League, it brings to the tenants under its management many of the social services of the League.

"Ours is a demonstration project," Alexander said. "We want to convince landlords of the advisability of local management as against absentee landlordism. We do not take on any tenement until minimum standards such as steam and hot water are installed."

The association is not interested in taking on more than 50 houses, since its main aim is to demonstrate that socially motivated management is good business practice.

"Our agents are specially trained men," Alexander declared. "They visit some 591 units each month for rent and have established a friendly relationship with tenants. They assist in health, and employment information and bring many family services to the public. They are alert to community needs."

The Association hopes to encourage formation of new agencies and will cooperate with other Negro managing agents. It also seeks "to encourage and promote the formation of contractors and craftsmen groups . . . to demonstrate that local labor can service and maintain buildings in the area . . . and to develop employment opportunities."

Two public projects are planned for Harlem after the war. The Abraham Lincoln and James Weldom Johnson projects will house 2,500 families. This is about five times the number of families already living in Harlem River Huses. More public and private houses will have to be built. It will take careful and scheduled planning to see that tenants dislodged for housing projects get a proper place to live in. That is the entire city's job.

Ask Roosevelt To Halt FHA Race Bias Policy

Defender Chicago, 11-11-44

WASHINGTON—Charges of racial discrimination in the official policy of the Federal Housing Authority were laid before President Roosevelt by the NAACP last week.

Six specific complaints were listed by Walter White, executive secretary, in a letter which accompanied the memorandum calling to the President's attention the agency's "reactionary and untenable position."

"We contend that the current operations of the FHA program

1. Discriminate against Negro applicants;
2. Promote racial residential segregation;
3. Prevent this potentially effective agency from making any significant contribution to meeting the basic housing needs of Negroes;
4. Run counter to the present trend of judicial decisions regarding racial restrictive covenants;
5. Contribute to the use of racial tensions by restriction of living space and housing accommodations;
6. Impair the democratic process and our Good Neighbor Policy."

FHA Manual Quoted

The memorandum then quotes excerpts from the Underwriting Manual issued by FHA, to prove that the agency is not "using the funds and power of all the citizenry on the side of sound housing and social policies." 11-11-44

The list of mortgage risks rated in the Manual includes, "Protection from Adverse Influences, which includes prevention of lower class occupancy **and inharmonious racial groups."**

"If a neighborhood is to retain its stability," the Manual continues, "it is necessary that properties shall continue to be occupied by the same social and racial classes."

Proposes Restrictive Covenants

For racial restrictive covenants, covered in the **Outline of Protective Covenants,** the Manual proposes the following form to be used: "No person of any race other than the ——— shall use or occupy any building or any lot except that this covenant shall not prevent occupancy by domestic servants of a race domiciled with an owner or tenant." 11-11-44

Declaring that racial references in the Underwriting Manual add up to two inescapable conclusions, the NAACP Memorandum points out, "First, the FHA as a matter of policy is using Government power to crystalize current residential segregation patterns and more, guarantees the extension of such racial patterns of living; and secondly, fosters the spread and acceptance of the fallacious conception that property values or deterioration is associated with race rather than economic factors."

Urge Presidential Action

Four recommendations are made, on which President Roosevelt is urged to take immediate action, including revision of FHA policies and procedures and removal of all reference to race from the Underwriting Manual issued by the agency. 11-11-44

In conclusion, White indicated that returning Negro veterans would be affected by the current policy of FHA, nullifying the provisions in the GI Bill of Rights concerning building and purchasing of homes far returning soldiers."

"We, therefore, place this matter before you now in order that you may remove at once the source of one of the most severe indictments of Negro citizens against your administration," the letter concluded.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

Philadelphia Tribune 6-3-44

BY E. WASHINGTON RHODES

ALLEN HOMES VISIT PROVES INSPIRING

RECENTLY I gave myself the pleasure of visiting the Richard Allen Homes, a low-rent project, which houses 5,386 persons. This the largest of all the housing projects in the Philadelphia area spreads over 26.7 acres. It stands in all its majestic beauty on the site which before the demolition was the worst slum area in Philadelphia. While the occupants are mixed 98 per cent is colored. The investment of $7,244,854 is paying big dividends in human values. Health has improved, crime has been reduced to a minimum. Children are growing into men and women who will be a great improvement over those who once grew up amid the debris and rotten living conditions of that section.

Across the street from these modern homes one will find broken-down shacks, filth and squalor unfit for human habitation. It is difficult to conceive of more horrible living conditions. One wonders what has happened to the Bureau of Health and Sanitation when such rottenness exists. Surely there must be a law to force greedy landlords who squeeze the last cent out of the unfortunate wretches who exist in these houses to make ordinary improvements.

The contrast between those who live in the Richard Allen Homes and those who live across the streets is astonishing. Dr. Irvin Underhill who is the manager took me into several apartments. They were spick and span. Everything was orderly and nicely arranged. 'We looked into windows as we walked up the street just a block away and everything from a cook stove to a wash tub was in one room. The inhabitants were as unlike those in the project as night is from day. All of which goes to prove that there is point to the assertion that better housing tends to make better citizens.

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In looking ing Authority I are no all-Negro The Tasker Ho

The tenants of Richard Allen Homes pay $362,675 annually for rent. There are 5,856 rooms. Therein are colored. The J cent colored. S cial disturbance **nursery school, 15 recreation areas, 4 adult play areas, 12** white families **sitting areas and spray pools, and a library which needs** management. **books. Dr. Underhill and his assistants are doing an ex-**

HOUSING PROJECTS AS COMMUNITIES

Chicago Defender 5-24-44

The National Association of Housing Officials and their hosts at their meeting recently, the Chicago Housing Authority, are to be congratulated on their far-seeing and constructive thinking as evidenced by practically every speaker at the convention.

Especially relevant to Chicagoans were the remarks of Mr. Oscar Brown describing the various tenants' organizations at the Ida B. Wells Homes. A housing project, as we have become increasingly aware, is not simply an extra large apartment house, with more living units than ordinary apartment houses. A housing project is a community. A new attitude towards group living and co-operative community action is developing in these housing projects.

There are three main types of tenant organizations at Ida B. Wells Homes. To show what such group action can do, Mr. Brown cited the fact that the Health Service Committee of Wellstown is performing for tenants services ordinarily impossible to get, such as vaccination against tuberculosis, which has never been introduced on a large scale in the U. S. before in any community.

Another important tenant committee works on recreation. The basic philosophy of the recreation committee is that delinquency and the formation of vicious child-gangs is the result of the lack of decent recreational opportunities. Instead of correcting children for their misbehavior, therefore, the committee sees to it that there are too many interesting things for them to do to have time for mischief.

The third important community activity is the consumers' co-operative, which is group action in the purchase of the necessities of life. According to Mr. Brown, the philosophy of housing managers is to help their tenants in every way possible to stretch their incomes, so that they get as high as possible a standard of living for the income they earn. Saving money for patrons consistently, the consumer co-operatives have proved a most effective means of achieving this aim.

It is gratifying to know that so many important possibilities of group action are known ahead of time as the date for the opening of the Altgeld Gardens Homes grows nearer. But health committees, recreation committees, and co-operatives cannot simply be planned by the higher-ups and automatically blossom into being. They depend for their strength on the willingness of the people concerned to work and plan. We hope that the people who intend to reside in the Altgeld Homes will see to it, by the planning and thinking they do now, that the vision of the Chicago Housing Authority will be realized. Whether the Altgeld Homes turns out to be a community, or simply another row of dwellings, depends on the co-operative action of the tenants.

Realtors Explode Theory That We Are a Bad Risk

AFRO-AMERICAN BALT., Md.

Survey Shows Colored Home Buyer Pays Promptly and Takes Care of Good Property

WASHINGTON

Many long accepted generalities that have discouraged entry of businessmen into the colored housing field were exploded this week by the National Association of Real Estate Boards (NAREB).

The association stated that according to surveys made by local real estate boards in eighteen representative cities there was no basis for the frequently heard statements that colored home buyers do not pay promptly or keep their property in repair.

A summary of the surveys showed that as a class, the colored home buyer meets his payments faithfully—often more faithfully than other racial groups on the same economic level—and that if his property is in good repair when he obtains it, he takes care of it after he buys it.

As a tenant, the report adds, the colored person takes as good care of such premises as other tenants of his economic class.

Drive on for Better Housing

The NAREB stated further a majority of realtors with colored housing experience reported that there is no reason why insurance companies should not purchase mortgages on properly located and managed property to be occupied by colored people.

The association, which recently launched a move to encourage better housing for colored people, said that it was developing its program as a business matter, based on an economic opportunity, and that it was not approaching the question from a reform standpoint.

It has urged real estate boards throughout the country to attempt to work out local programs in their communities for better housing and is seeking to encourage greater interest in good housing among builders and financing institutions.

The need for such programs is seen in the fact that the semi-annual survey by the association, conducted through member boards, showed an acute shortage of all types of colored housing in 330 cities.

Views Future Negro Housing As Good Risk

New York American News 11-18-44

National Real Estate Board Finds Negro Housing, Not a Reform, But Sound Business

WASHINGTON—So-called Negro housing is a good risk for both builders and financial institutions, and the field ought to be developed, not from the standpoint of social reform but because it is good business.

This is the substance of the report issued Wednesday by the National Association of Real Estate boards upon completion of surveys of the Negro housing question by local real estate boards.

Realtors with experience in Negro housing reported to the association that as a class, the Negro home buyer meets his payments faithfully—often more faithfully than other racial groups in the same economic level—and that if his property is in good repair when he obtains it, he takes care of it after he buys it. As a tenant, he takes as good care of such premises as other tenants of his economic class.

The Study Revealed

The study of Negro housing experience was made in 18 representative cities. In addition the semi-annual survey of NAREB conducted through member boards showed 147 cities out of 330, or 42 per cent, reporting better Negro housing as a pressing need. Fifty-one per cent of the 147 cities confronted with the problem have action under way to meet it.

The shortage of all types of Negro housing was shown by the NAREB survey to be acute. The war has greatly widened the number of cities for which Negro housing is a real and immediate problem.

White Ga. Businessmen Give $52,000 To Raze Slums, Build Negro Homes

Chicago Defender Chicago, Ill.

12-16-44

COLUMBUS, Ga.—(ANP)—Complete disgust with the "Tobacco Road" housing conditions in the Weracobra Creek area here, has led hard-headed white businessmen of this community to voluntarily give $52,00 in cash toward the construction of a modern housing project for Negro inhabitants of the district.

Brown Nicholson, executive director of the housing authority of Columbus, and proud of the philanthropic action of his neighbors, boasts that it is the first time in the history of the nation that it has been done. 12-16-44

Today, where formerly there had stretched long, dank rows of three-room "shotgun shacks' 160 red-brick, permanent apartments are going up in the district which for years has been breeding waters for crime and slow sickness.

The largest shack of the 83 torn down, composed of five rooms, housed three families of 13 persons. "When they slept, they just doubled up," Nicholson says. Altogether, 128 families existed in the 83 shanties. 12-16-44

When the project was planned, the Federal Public Housing authority selected a vacant site outside the city limits and proposed to build 160 apartments for Negro war workers. Advised of this, the aggressive Columbus Planning Association approached the local housing authority and asked that the project be used to instead of clean up the slums on Weracobra creek, only a few blocks from the downtown business section.

Both organizations appealed to the national housing agency, only to be told that the budget for the project could not be increased since it hand already been signed by President Roosevelt. It would take approximately $100,000 to transfer to the slum area, the agency pointed out.

Washington's "No" helped make history. 12-16-44

Charlie Frank Williams, contractor, who missed out as a bidder on the project, decided that $100,000 was too small a barrier. He went to the Columbus Housing authority and gave it a letter pledging himself to raise the addditional money by public subscription.

Accepting the guarantee, the Federal Public Housing authority agreed to build on the creek. Williams and Walter A. Richards, general chairman of the Columbus Planning commission, personally interviewing some 50 business men, obtained outright donations ranging from $250 to the Nehi corporation's $16,000, in all totaling $52,000. 12-16-44

No strings were attached to these gifts, except one. The businessmen asked that the money level the slums. In addition, the city agreed to donate $32,500 in labor and materials and the county $12,500 for the same purpose. This made a total of $97,500 given to build better homes for Negro citizens. The project, when completed on April 1, will cost $864,000, the government providing the remainder of the funds.

HOUSING HEADS ON WEST COAST

Defender, Chicago, Ill. 11-18-44

WASHINGTON (ANP)—The two top Negroes in the field of public housing are on the west coast in the first log of an inspection trip which will keep them away from the capital for a month. They are Frank S. Horne, chief racial relations adviser in the Federal Public Housing authority, and Booker T McGraw housing analyst for the National Housing agency.

"This is our first trip in about two years," Horne said on Thursday. "We plan to talk with the people in the field to help them work out sound policies and make their procedures effective. Of course we intend to file field reports from time to time, and will naturally make a report upon our return."

Racial Problems

Horne will concern himself primarily with programs which have already been initiated, whereas McGraw will look to the programming of further housing, with emphasis upon initiative by private builders. 11-18-44

The situation in Seattle and environs is considered interesting in that large numbers of Negroes have migrated there in recent years. Recently Mrs. Irene Miller, white, was made racial relations adviser for the region although she had performed these duties informally since July while doing other work on the staff there.

The two men have have a chance to see how well sound housing policies are being pursued in region six where Langdon Post, former housing authority commissioner in New York City, is director. Post last year instituted certain pioneering steps which won for him wide acclaim in the Negro press.

Marin Good Example

In this work Post has been aided by Harold Dunleavy, also white executive assistant to the director. The manner in which Negro in migrants have been integrated a Marin City and elsewhere is considered exemplary. Horne called it one of the "bright lights" on the west coast.

Richmond, however, is viewed less favorably. It is in this section of California that there has been wide in-migration, Horne, explained. Contrary to most thinking, he added, the majority of Negroes coming in are not from the south but from the middle west and east.

Horne and McGraw hope to visit Texas also where Maceo Smith in Dallas is credited with an outstanding job. Time permitting they will also visit St. Louis and Chicago. However, if not, a second trip will be made later.

Housing No. 1 Task Facing New Residents

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
1-1-44

Estimated 300 Job Seekers Come to Baltimore Weekly

POPULATION NOW EXCEEDS 200,000

More Fortunate New Comers Find Homes in Federal Projects

By RUTH JENKINS

BALTIMORE—The main problem which faces the estimated 300 in-migrants who flock to Baltimore weekly is housing—the No. 1 problem which today exists in the entire city.

In pointing out that new residents who come to the city without knowing how their arrival intensifies an already serious situation, one housing worker put it this way:

"They come without knowing what the housing score is. But with a good job in the offing, they arrive with a suitcase and probably a couple of children. Then they find that there's no place to stay."

Post office statistics listed the colored population in Baltimore at 163,843 in 1940. By September, 1942, this figure had jumped to 195,000.

Now Over 200,000

In July, 1943, based on in-migrant figures, the colored population was set at 200,000 out of a total of one million, and the estimate of today is about 210,000.

Noting the increase of 46,157 over a three-year period, J. Harvey Kerns, executive secretary of the Urban League, points out that "since 1940, less than 10,000 persons have been provided living accommodations through the new Federal and private housing developments." 1-1-44

Social Problems Increase

"Hundreds of native families have assisted by opening their homes to these newcomers," Mr. Kerns says, "but the result of such overcrowding has produced many social problems, including high morbidity and mortality rates and an increase in juvenile delinquency and adult crime.

"With tensions becoming more evident as the result of overcrowded living conditions, 1943 closes with the housing problem for colored in-migrants far from a satisfactory solution."

BHA Has Large Task

The agency most forcibly affected by the great influx of new residents is the Baltimore Housing Authority, which, with the advent of war, turned its entire program to providing homes for these newcomers who are filling war jobs.

During the war period a total of 1,255 such families have become tenants of the housing authority in three war housing projects.

These are the 587-unit Gilmor Homes in Northwest Baltimore, the 420-unit Somerset Court Homes in East Baltimore and the 248-unit Banneker Homes at Fairfield, Md.

Four new projects now in various stages of development will provide homes for 1,752 additional migrant families. These include a 650-unit permanent project to be built on the Cherry Hill site in South Baltimore.

Other 3 Temporary

The other three projects to be erected at Turners' Station, Sparrows Point and Holabird are expected to be fully constructed within the next six months and demolished soon after the war ends.

While singularly engaged now in building homes for migrants, the housing authority is anxious to extend its pre-war slum-clearance program, according to Yewell W. Dillehunt, white, director.

"There is a tendency to do away with the slum-clearance program all over the country after the war," Mr. Dillehunt said, "but we want to continue that work for the benefit of the native population.

"There is at present about $24,000 worth of property which ought to be torn down. We want 25 million dollars for post-war slum clearance in Baltimore. Our plans are already laid. We know just how and where we want to begin. All we will need is the money and the go-ahead signal."

War Housing Center Active

Another agency which grew directly out of the housing situation confronting migrants is the War Housing Center, directed by L. H. Denton, white, at 312 St. Paul Place.

This agency, little more than a year old, attacked the problem by the conversion of existing buildings into apartments and unit accommodations. 1-1-44

Seminary Bldg. Used

The largest of these completed projects is the old St. Joseph Seminary Building at 607 Pennsylvania Avenue, which was converted into forty-two modern apartments and was fully occupied just last week.

By the same system, seven families have been placed in the newly converted house at 1230 McCulloh Street, and five at 1034 N. Eutaw Street.

An additional 55 housing units are now under construction, 10 of which will be in the old Galilean Fishermen's Home in the 600 block W. Biddle Street. The War Housing Center also has 23 other properties under lease awaiting possession.

450 Buildings Planned

Mr. Denton explained that the center has programmed a total of 450 converted housing units for colored in-migrants tenants.

The money is available, he said, but unscrupulous landlords and lack of other facilities for the present tenants prove handicaps to acquiring the properties.

He painted a colorful picture of migrant workers who having arrived in the city bag and baggage, and finding no place to lodge, sit piteously in his office after having appealed to him for help.

Sees 350 Weekly

"We get about 350 such applications a month," he said. "In those cases and in cases where families have been evicted we give them priority for apartments in the new housing projects. In this way we accommodated several at the Somerset Court Homes and filled about 80 per cent of the Banneker Homes."

Other agencies which have instituted room-registry services to help accommodate newcomers to the city are the YWCA and the Gold Street USO, which maintains a list of homes available for servicemen's wives who are week-end visitors.

The Social Security Board has also expressed the desire to establish a residence hall for girls from out of town who come to work at the board and have been unable to find rooms.

Chicago Gets New Permanent Homes Project

Tribune-Philadelphia
9-23-44

Approval of a program to provide 3,500 family housing units for war workers in the Chicago, Ill., area has been announced by John B. Blandford, Jr., Administrator of the National Housing Agency.

The main portion of this new program will be provided with private financing for 3,000 units, 2,500 of which will be new construction and 500 accommodations to be furnished by converting existing structures.

The remainder of the new program, of 500 units, will be publicly financed and of permanent construction. This publicly financed project will house war workers for the duration of the war, but will revert to a low-rent housing development after war.

Housing

Figures Show Private Industry Reneges on Housing for Negro

Tribune-Washington, D.C.
6-24-44

The claims of private industry that it can build all the homes needed and that public housing is not necessary went a-begging this week when figures revealed that private builders have failed almost completely in the job of providing war housing for Negroes.

The figures revealed that up to April 1, in spite of the acute shortage of Negro housing, private industry had completed less than 3,000 housing units for Negroes out of almost 17,000 allocated to it by the Government. Out of the 362,077 war housing units completed by April 1, only 2,880 were for Negroes.

Less than 1 per cent of the war housing completed by private industry under war allocations was Negro housing, although about 10 per cent of the Nation's population is composed of Negroes poorly housed.

Priorities Not Used

The figures on priorities revealed that private industry that all had not been used for Negro housing. Out of 16,882 priorities granted to private industry for Negro housing, a third were not used; another third had been accepted but no construction was underway, and altogether only 4,793, or less than a third had been started.

These figures contrast sharply with those on white war housing. Private industry has completed most of the white housing units for which it had been given priorities to build and only about 15,000 priorities out of 500,000 are unused. 6-24-44

In other words, while less than a third of the Negro units for which priorities have been granted are built or under construction, about 430,000 of the 500,000 white units for which priorities have been granted are under way.

Public Housing Bad Enough

Negro leaders say that as bad as is the record of war housing for Negroes, it is better than private industry's record in peace times. They emphasize that in normal times practically no new housing is put up for Negroes, and complain that members of the race have to put up with leftovers from the white.

These housing figures are interpreted to indicate that private industry cannot be counted upon to provide the housing so sorely needed by Negroes.

WHAT SLUMS COST

News-Birmingham, Ala.

Projects for slum clearance would move forward more rapidly if the cost to taxpayers in maintaining slums were more generally known. A study by the Federal Works Agency shows that slum and blighted districts, which comprise about 20 per cent of metropolitan residential areas, but provide only 6 per cent of the tax revenues from real estate, are the most expensive in public services. These areas have 33 per cent of the population, but account for 45 per cent of the major crimes, 55 per cent of the juvenile delinquency, 50 per cent of the arrests, 50 per cent of the disease, 60 per cent of the tuberculosis victims, 35 per cent of the fires and 45 per cent of the city service costs.

Other surveys made in individual cities tend to bear out these figures. In Detroit, the white slum areas show a marked increase in infant mortality and tuberculosis death rate over the city as a whole. In the Negro slum areas, infant mortality is nearly double the city average and the tuberculosis death rate is more than five times the average. Swanky, suburban Westchester County, New York, has only 4 per cent of its area in slums, but a committee of citizens discovered that this small part accounted for half the fires, half the tuberculosis cases and 65 to 80 per cent of hospital service costs, children's court cases, arrests, fire-law violations, infant mortality and syphilis. 6-7-44

While tearing down slums will not convert the inmates overnight into healthy, law-abiding citizens, the clearance does remove conditions that breed disease, vice and crime. Over a long period, the razing of slums will make dollar savings to taxpayers, aside from the other advantages of getting more people into modern, comfortable homes and in removing community eyesores.—Dallas News.

Housing For Negroes

(*Atlanta Journal*, July 31, 1944)

The declaration by the National Association of Real Estate Boards, representing 20,000 real estate firms over the nation, that the members should face the Negro housing problem as a sound business investment, is a move that should have far-reaching economic effects. It should result in housing improvements for millions of Negro families, and a raise in the standard of living for this large minority group is certain to have a generally favorable effect upon the nation as a whole.

The association has recognized that there is a serious shortage of healthful and safe housing for Negroes, setting forth the belief that in this shortage lies an unparalleled opportunity for real estate men in every community to tap an almost entirely new field of business. The association asserts further that the Negro, if given the opportunity, is a good economic risk. This makes the projected housing program a

Moron Conducts Housing Institute

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
4-30-44

Aionzo G. Moron, manager of the University and John Hope Homes, Atlanta, Georgia, and part-time instructor of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, will conduct a seven weeks' Housing Management Training Institute at the School, starting June 12. Mr. Moron is a graduate of the first housing Management Training Institute conducted for prospective managers

of the first housing projects completed in 1936 and 1937.

The first three weeks in the Institute will consist of lectures on, and discussions of housing for low-income families, problems of maintenance and operation of large-scale housing developments, and of community services and programs generally found in public housing neighborhoods. The second three weeks will be devoted to supervised field work in a housing project The final week will be given over to a correlation of the two experiences and a summary of the course

4-30-44

The Atlanta University School of Social Work is offering the Institute it's regular summer session in response to the many unfilled requests received by the school for trained Negroes to take housing management jobs The number of existing vacancies is being increased by staff needs of new projects as a result of the draft.

Negro Project For Queens

Daily Worker—New York N.Y.

9-5-44

Corona, Queens, will be the site of a cooperative apartment house for 150 Negro owner-occupants, all of them sleeping-car porters and dining car men with families, it was learned yesterday from the Pioneer Williams Co., 101 Park Ave.

The $750,000 project is part of an $8,000,000 program of dwellings, hotels and theaters for Negroes in various cities throughout the United States. The program has been approved by the National Housing Agency and the Federal Housing Authority. It projects 5,000 modern housing units in the New York metropolitan area. 9-5-44

Two unions cooperating in the Corona project to be done by the end of 1945 are the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Dining Car Employes Union, both AFL.

HOUSING PROJECT TO RISE IN HARLEM

Times—New York, N.Y.

9-18-44

Metropolitan Life to Build Community for 1,200 Families in a Neglected Section

TO RENT AT $12.50 A ROOM

12-Acre Site Being Acquired Will Be Landscaped—Cost of Structures $5,000,000

On a twelve-acre site in a long-neglected section of Harlem overlooking the Harlem River the Metropoltian Life Insurance Company is planning to erect a modern park-like residential community for 1,200 families.

Frederick H. Ecker, chairman of the board of the insurance company, announced the details of the post-war housing plan yesterday and said the new home center would be known as Riverton. No estimate of the cost was available, but realty and building experts figured that the structural investment alone would amount to $5,000,000. 9-18-44

Mayor La Guardia, in his weekly radio broadcast, revealed that the new housing project was designed to accommodate 3,400 persons at an average basic rental of $12.50 a room. Detailed plans together with a proposed contract between the city and the insurance company's housing subsidiary, will be submitted today to the appropriate public agencies, including the City Planning Commission and the Board of Estimate.

Mayor Suggests More Projects

The Mayor paid tribute to Mr. Ecker as "a young man past 70 years of age" who had vision. His attitude, the Mayor said, was in sharp contrast with that of five "blind" men representing" five fine financial institutions" with whom he had held a "discouraging" conference recently. The Mayor suggested that other insurance companies follow the example of the Metropolitan. 9-18-44

The buildings of the new development will rise in a Manhattan neighborhood that has seen few changes in recent years. They will replace a number of old factory structures and a few old-law tenements. The sponsors expect to transform this unattractive spot into a community with a suburban atmosphere, Mr. Ecker said.

The project, said to have been "initiated by and developed with the active cooperation of Mayor La Guardia and Park Commissioner Moses," takes in the land bounded by 135th and 138th Streets, Fifth Avenue and the Harlem River. It has been under consideration for more than a year, and will be construcoted under the terms of New York's Redevelopment Companies Law, Mr. Ecker announced.

It is designed as a sort of Harlem counterpart to the Metropolitan Life's post-war Stuyvesant Town community on the lower East side of Manhattan, also to be built under the Redevelopment Companies Law. 9-18-44

Riverton's buildings will cover only about 25 per cent of the housing site. The greater part of the land will be developed with landscaped gardens, tree-bordered walks and playgrounds. In general layout the partments will correspond to those to be erected in Stuyvesant Town. Substantially all the land needed for the project is now being acquired by purchase. Under the State statute condemnation proceedings are authorized to take any other needed property.

City to Get Land for Drive

The land required by the city for the new Harlem River Drive and extension of the East River Drive at this point will be sold by the Metropolitan to the city at cost. Two existing streets—136th and 137th—will be closed off where they run through the site, and the city will acquire land for the widening of the border streets.

The housing frontage faces a municipal health center and the Harlem Hospital, and on the adjoining blocks to the south the New York City Housing Authority is planning to construct Abraham Lincoln Houses after the war. A few blocks away is the new Charles Young playground, which was opened on Saturday.

"The project is of great importance, forming part of the rehabilitation program so essential to the future of the city," Mr. Ecker commented. "It affords a substantial contribution to the program of the Mayor and the City Planning Commission to bring about better living conditions in the city. The necessary contracts will be entered into with all possible speed in order that work may be started as soon as feasible in the light of existing war conditions. 9-18-44

"Riverton and Stuyvesant Town represent the first use of private capital for the rebuilding of obsolete city areas under the Redevelopment Companies Law which has been described by the Court of Appeals as "an effort by the Legislature to promote cooperation between municipal government and private capital to the end that substandard insanitary areas in our urban communities may be rehabilitated."

Negroes and Whites Live Together In Harmony in New California War Housing Project Near Frisco

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

MARTIN CITY, Cal. — (ANP) — That Negroes and whites can live together peacefully without race feuds has been made a reality here at the new public war-housing project. Beside sharing the war-housing project together, both races use the same churches and community services as one. 7-7-44

Located only a few miles from San Francisco, the official policy of the city has been one of non-segregation and has been ably supported by the mayor, a former member of the Oregon State legislature and now a welder in the shipyards and the editor of the community paper. He is credited with making the non-segregation policy effective.

The war-housing project here consist of 1,500 dwellings. White residents frequently object to having Negro neighbors but the project management refuses to make any changes unless the Negro family is actually troublesome in some way. 7-7-44

Since there is literally no other place to live in this over-crowded section the white people resign themselves to the situation. "There is no stigma attached to living next door to Negroes; there is no one to administer the stigma," declared Milla Z. Logan, formerly of the Martin County Housing authority.

Logan said the same policy applies to social relations. There are Protestant and Catholic church services but there is no separate service for Negroes. All the whites, except a small minority, have accepted the situation, he reports.

"There's no trouble between Negroes and whites in Martin City," commented Logan, except a small minority, have accepted the situation, he reports.

While the integration of Negroes into community life has been making steady progress, Logan said "White people with a passive attitude of sympathy" for racial minorities have been induced to "take an active stand against discrimination and the results have been seen in the encouragement extended to Negroes to take part in community activities."

At least one Negro has been a member of the community council from the beginning, Logan pointed out, adding that the anti-Negro elements have not been "so hostile as to agitate against the election of Negroes." He thinks, however, that if the white majority had a chance to vote on the question of whether the Negro should, or should not, be ejected from the project, they unquestionably would vote for ejection of the Negro. 7-7-44

"Nevertheless, Negroes and whites are today living together in Martin City in a harmonious intimacy unknown in any other community in this area," Logan declared.

GOOD NEWS

Age—New York, N.Y.

GOOD NEWS was reported by the New York City Housing Authority on August 1st with release of information that title to the site of the Abraham Lincoln Houses, a proposed low-rent housing project to be built in East Harlem, now is vested in the New York City Housing Authority as result of an order issued by the Supreme Court of the State of New York. 8-19-44

Edmond B. Butler, City Housing Authority chairman, stated that this action directs the condemnation of the site, the area between East 132nd and East 135th streets and Park and Fifth avenues.

"Although," he said, "we expect that the war will delay for some time the demolition of the buildings on the site, and the construction of the project, we are gratified to have this order because it makes it possible for us to proceed as soon as conditions permit." In the meanwhile, owners and occupants who are now in possession will be allowed to remain on the premises.

Abraham Lincoln Houses, which will cost approximately $8,836,000, will be built by the New York City Housing Authority with loan funds from the State, and it will receive State and City subsidies to achieve rents low enough to be in keeping with the purpose of the project. It will provide new homes for 1288 families, or approximately 5,440 persons. This order is the second of its kind this week. The first, issued the day before, condemned the site of the propsed project in Brooklyn to be known as Marcy Houses, in which Negroes also live, in the area bounded by Flushing, Marcy, Nostrand and Myrtle avenues.

Selected to manage the property for the Abraham Lincoln site was Augustine A. Austin, of 209 West 125th street, president of the Antillean Holding Company, well-known Negro realtor. 8-19-44

To the disadvantaged living in the present site of the Abraham Lincoln Houses, the news that low-cost housing will be erected comes as welcome news. It is only a beginning, however, because there are slum areas all over Harlem which need demolishing and rebuilding. It is up to the residents of Harlem to make the City Housing Authority aware of their desires for better housing and it can only be done by protest and continual protest until the final objective—decent housing

TAYLOR CONDEMNS REAL ESTATE ATTITUDE ON PUBLIC HOUSING

Bee - Chicago, Ill
1-9-44

Robert R. Taylor, chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority, this week condemned the attack on public housing by Cyrus Crane Willmore, president of the National association of Real Estate Boards, which recently appeared in the press.

Mr. Taylor charges that Mr. Willmore's statement is a distortion of facts designed to confuse the people and deny decent housing to thousands of American families whose incomes are too low to induce private enterprise to serve them adequately. Mr. Willmore states that the public housing program has failed because it has not cleared the slums. Does Mr. Willmore believe that five thousand publicly sponsored homes built in Chicago can replace two hundred and forty thousand slum dwellings?

'In cities throughout the country the amount of public housing built is so limited that it cannot begin to clear the slums. Public housing HAS housed slum families. If Mr. Willmore really wants the slums cleared and the slum dwellers decently housed what he really means to say is that the amount of public housing built to date has been insufficient to clear the slums or to meet the needs of low income families.

'Mr. Willmore further charges that the identical families housed in clearing areas have been the occupants of the new public housing projects.' Mr. Taylor stated that the Chicago Housing Authority and most others in the country, gave preference to rehousing of families moved from the area cleared. The time elapsed between the demolition and the completion of the new hoes produced many exigencies which account for the fact that many original families occupying the site were not housed. However the fact remains that the initial occupancy of public housing projects is confined to low income families, 100 per cent of whom come from substandard housing."

The Housing Authority spokesman also pointed out that the income of workers in public housing projects has risen due to the war, but that more than 40 per cent, or two thousand four hundred eighty-five, of the tenant families now have incomes under sixteen hundred dollars a year. Furthermore, the average annual income of new tenants for October 1943 amounted to $826.

"Mr. Willmore decries the fact," declared the Housing Commissioner, "that public housing tends to gravitate all low income families together in certain areas. Does Mr. Willmore overlook the fact that most families who now live in slum districts are of the low economic class and that public housing does not change the pattern of poor families seeking cheap housing in run-down neighborhoods nor higher income families seeking good housing in desirable neighborhoods. Public housers invite the private real estate operators to collaborate by integrating housing for all income classes within general areas, thereby eliminating class distinctions according to neghborhoods. Mr. Willmore claims that the private property owner must bear an increased amonnt of Municipal cost by reason of public housing's inability to pay the normal real estate tax." Mr. Taylor stated that those who believe in the reason for her interest in housing for Negroes, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President, stated in an article in her column Wednesday in the Washington Daily News.

The First Lady said she had received a number of letters asking her why she was so interested in Negro housing in Washington when white people find it difficult to get decent housing, not only in Washington but in many other places.

"Aside from that," Mrs. Roosevelt said, "if we allow restriction of areas in any city which has an increasingly large colored population, we shall have as in Washington, D. C., colored areas where health is bad.

"Overcrowding will affect the moral conditions for young people as well as old and make the city less safe for all its inhabitants. More police will be needed and the institutions such as prisons, hospitals, etc., will be overcrowded A heavier tax burden will pile up on the citizens of the community.

"Here are some real facts about colored housing in the District of Columbia. These facts could be duplicated in other cities of the nation. It is inevitably, because it is human, each group affected by maladjustments is far more conscious of its own discomforts than it is of discomforts felt by another group. So, in Washington, the white population is very conscious of Negro expansion into areas formerly occupied by whites, but is scarcely aware of white expansion into areas formerly occupied by Negroes. With Negroes, the reverse is true. Yet both expansions are taking place and the net result is loss of territory by Negroes."

This loss of territory is occurring despite the fact the Negro population of Washington has maintained a constant proportion to the white population during a 140-year period. Since 1800, the Negro population has increased from 4,027 to 187,266 in 1940. 1-29-44

NCHA admits in its report that there is a possible surplus of immediately needed dwellings for white in-migrant workers in Washington. In recommending an increase in allocation of dwellings for colored families, it says:

"The present war housing program including the permanent dwellings erected by private builders and the supplementary temporary dwellings erected by the National Capital Housing Authority, seems to provide adequately for

Housing

ed out that the Chicago area project study showed that juvenile delinquency in the area on which the Jane Addams Houses are located stood at 32.5 per 100 children for a period of years before the project was built. "This is typical of other projects under the supervision of the Chicago Housing Authority" continued Mr. Taylor. 1-9-44

The commissioner charged that Mr. Willmore and his associate realtors resent the government's participation in housing because they want to maintain their monopolistic activities in a field which even they admit they are impotent to operate successfully. They are as unsound in fighting decent housing for all people in America as were those who opposed the printing press. Decent housing for all the families of America in which both public and private enterprise will collaborate and work together is our program and our hope for the future, claimed Mr. Taylor.

Cites Negro Losses

In its annual report, the National Capital Housing Authority recognized the problem being faced by Negroes in Washington and in most cities of the nation. It declared: "Inevitably, because it is human, each group affected by maladjustments is far more conscious of its own discomforts than it is of discomforts felt by another group. So, in Washington, the white population is very conscious of Negro expansion into areas formerly occupied by whites, but is scarcely aware of white expansion into areas formerly occupied by Negroes. With Negroes, the reverse is true. Yet both expansions are taking place and the net result is loss of territory by Negroes."

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First Lady Answers Critics On Interest in Negro Housing

Tribune - Washington D. C.
1-8-44

Because there are more people to speak for white tenants than for colored tenants was given as the reason for her interest in housing for Negroes, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the President, stated in an article in her column Wednesday in the Washington Daily News.

The First Lady said she had received a number of letters asking her why she was so interested in Negro housing in Washington when white people find it difficult to get decent housing, not only in Washington but in many other places.

"Aside from that," Mrs. Roosevelt said, "if we allow restriction of areas in any city which has an increasingly large colored population, we shall have as in Washington, D. C., colored areas where health is bad.

"Overcrowding will affect the moral conditions for young people as well as old and make the city less safe for all its inhabitants. More police will be needed and the institutions such as prisons, hospitals, etc., will be overcrowded A heavier tax burden will pile up on the citizens of the community.

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First Lady Stands By Her Negro Housing Defense

Defender - Chicago, Ill
1-29-44

(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON -- Refusing to apologize to a citizens association for remarks made in her column ly Day" in which she said the oup had opposed erection of a

housing unit for Negroes in the center of a Negro residential district in Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt went to further last week and declared that neighborhoods rezoned in ers and the supplementary temporary dwellings erected by the National Capital Housing Authority, seems to provide adequately for

conditions that will "menace" the entire city.

"If you restrict by zoning a part of town where Negroes can live you are making it difficult," Each situation has to be decided in the light of the "greatest to build," she said, "you are banning the decent housing difficulty." she declared, has good for the greatest number."

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"Devious ways can be used to achieve the object in view, namely, pushing the colored residents more and more into a segregated little city of their own. This area will be as far out as possible, where transportation and utilities will be less available.

"This proposal to herd our citizens according to race and religion has many serious disadvantages and should be fought, I believe, by all people interested in the future peace and unity of our nation."

white in-migrant war workers. In fact there may be a surplus of immediately needed dwellings for white in-migrant war workers.

"It does not provide, however, for residents of the District of Columbia who are not in-migrant war workers. For Negroes it does not provide adequately even in terms of in-migrant workers. So there should be an increase in the allocation of dwellings for Negroes. To the extent that these can be built by private builders for rent within the ability of Negro war workers, they should be assigned to private builders. But the need is urgent and will continue. So, all these dwellings should be of permanent construction. To the extent that the need is not met by private builders it must be met by public housing."

Negro Housing Black Market Proof Sought

Post—Birmingham, Ala. 10-2-44

The National Housing Agency indicated yesterday that if "substantial proof" of a Washington black market in priorities for Negro housing is submitted, Administrator John B. Blandford, jr., will act to "cut the ground from under it" by authorizing release of additional priorities to meet immediate housing needs.

A check of outstanding priorities is now in progress by the Federal Housing Administration, it was learned, as a preliminary to recapture and reissue to reliable builders.

About 1000 priorities for Negro home building are outstanding. It is from among these that the reported illegal sales between builders, aired in the House ths week by Representative Howard W. Smith (D., Va.), could be drawn.

Blandford has already stated that NHA will take "prompt action" if Smith submits proof that unused priorities are being sold for "as high as $100 per unit" by housing "racketeers" who cornered the market.

Progress in recapturing unused priorities may be slow, it was stated at NHA, because the law authorizing the action for priorities issued before March 1, 1944, is "too weak." Both NHA and FHA, along with the War Production Board, will keep in touch with the situation, it was promised, since "the main objective is to provide the homes needed here by Negro families."

SOAPBOX — by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

POWELL

People's Voice, N.Y. 2-12-44

ON JUNE 12, 1943, the following editorial was printed in this paper. What has happened during the last few days makes this editorial just as valid now. The moneyed people of this town are out for a showdown on the Negro. The billions of dollars of the insurance companies and savings banks are being used to try to keep the Negro in his place. The local press has undoubtedly been bought off. Witness the paste-up lies on page three. The reactionary Republicans are maneuvering New York City Democrats into the position where they will completely lose the Negro vote this year.

If the Democrat-dominated City Council fails to stop Stuyvesant Town, then not one honest self-respecting citizen can vote for them. If the Democratic Party is to keep the Negro vote it's up to Frank Kelly, Ed Flynn, Ed Loughlin to pass the word to the City Council members **now.**

(The following is the reprint):

Hitler won a victory in New York City last week. Democracy was raped by all but two of the members of the Board of Estimate.

The Negro and fair-minded whites of this city were shown conclusively that dollars and not democracy run this city! The arch jimcro corporation of America—the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company — was granted permission to transfer all the wretchedness — misery — discrimination — and racial hatred of a European Ghetto into the heart of New York City.

It was told it could build a housing project to accommodate 25,000 select people. Letters were introduced at the hearing in which representatives of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company stated that Negroes would be barred from the project. Therefore, it will be an "all white" community. This company was told it could drive the present inhabitants of the houses in the location where the proposed project will be erected from their homes by the power of eminent domain without providing new dwellings for these outcast people. It was assured that it could close the existing churches in this area and drive the worshippers from before the face of their God.

It was also told that the the Metropolitan Life Insurance company and not the people, black or white, rule New York City. Democracy and civic pride were sold in whoredom by our Board of Estimate.

A wall over 12 feet in height will surround the city of seclusion, and signs will forbid the passers-by to stop or enter.

The rooms will rent for over $14 each. The people in that area now pay far less. When they are forced from their homes, they will not be able to pay this exorbitant rent and will have to move on to create slums elsewhere.

Is this "slum clearance" or the vicious transplanting of poverty?

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Negroes who go from New York City to the armed forces have one more straw added to the camel's back of their loyalty. Black lads across the seas, working and fighting for democracy, will be glad to hear that their city welcomes a community where they will not be able to live when they return?

Newbold Morris and Edgar Nathan are the only two men on the board worthy of any man's respect. Park Commissioner Moses is a traitor to the public generally, and Eckler is as we expect, a member of "democracy's black market."

The fight has just begun—We will not take this lying down—We are Americans—New York is our City too—We will be heard; Every Negro and patriotic white must rally now to prevent this infiltration of fascism.

Remember, you who voted in favor of this project and betrayed us—white and black—that we will meet you at the polls in a near day, and we will show you then that you cannot wantonly sell our trust! We are going to defeat you and all hitler-minded anti-victory agents who are sabotaging all that America stands for and is fighting to preserve. It is far better to have slums inhabited by free people than a magnificent Ghetto of slaves to prejudice and fascism.

It's an Ill Wind That Blows

CALL—KANSAS CITY, MO.

Houses for rent in Kansas City are one whose solution can con... the acute problem it is but a... so scarce that families are doubling up delayed. Some weeks ago,... in small rooms and the overcrowded ence was called in the city ... conditions are creating a health haz- thing about the "terrible h... ditions in the Negro comm... ard. 2-11-44

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Negroes cannot go wrong in buying war bonds and homes. Bought thro' a sense of duty and necessity now, both will be realized for the good investments they are when money is not quite so easy.

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It's an Ill Wind That Blows No

The housing situation has been so acute for so long that it is taken as a matter of course that nothing can be done about it. It is far better to have slums inhabited by free people than a magnificent Ghetto of slaves to prejudice and fascism.

Houses for rent in Kansas City are one whose solution can continue to be so scarce that families are doubling up delayed. Some weeks ago, a in small rooms and the overcrowded ence was called in the city to do conditions are creating a health haz- something about the "terrible housard. ing conditions in the Negro community," because white residents had threatened property values were prevented from moving into certain residential district.

Negro Housing

Post - Washington, D.C. 2-6-44

Capital Sets Record For U.S. in Unalleviated Wretchedness of Slums

By AGNES E. MEYER

In my journey through the war centers I have visited the worst possible housing. But not in the Negro slums of Detroit, not even in the Southern cities, have I seen human beings subjected to such unalleviated wretchedness as in the alleys of our own city of Washington.

These alley dwellings and street slums must go! That is an old cry. At this moment another congressional hearing on housing and slum-clearance is in progress.

Statistics are again being piled up on the crime, delinquency, tuberculosis, and venereal disease that rise like a pestilential fume from these overcrowded regions. The human beings subjected to such unalleviated wretchedness as in the alleys of our own city.

For warworkers and lack of Negro housing have congested these areas more than ever, have made slum areas of adjacent properties and increased all the social and economic problems that even in normal times determine the living conditions of the Negro in a large city.

As usual in this city, a small group of public-spirited citizens is showing an active interest. But only an aroused and widespread public opinion will ever conquer the difficulties that surround any attempt at progress in a situation as old as the Civil War.

But surely the Washington housewives would rise in a solid phalanx and march upon Congress with demands for action if they could be made to realize that they live on the edge of a crater which constantly belches forth the most poisonous fumes.

For daily into their homes, to care for their children, wash their dishes and make their beds, come Negro servants, many of whom are obliged to live in these crime and disease-ridden areas. If higher motives cannot be aroused, surely the primary instinct of self-protection should open the eyes of the least civic-minded person to the fact that no minority population can be continuously oppressed without direct repercussions upon society as a whole and that no sound social foundation cannot rest upon a submerged class. 2-6-44

20,000 Toiletless

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Gen. U. S. Grant, chairman of the National Park and Plannning Commission, stated last week that 2400 alley dwellings had from 11,000 to 12,000 inhabitants. Altogether there are more than 20,000 substandard houses in Washington having neither toilet nor bath and about 6800 are without running water. Probably the alley houses are the worst because they are so old.

L'Enfant designed our city blocks around generous open spaces so that the citizens of the Capital could enjoy large gardens.

But when the flood of Negro refugees swept into Washington after the Civil War, real estate agents floated a project that made these back yards more profitable by constructing Negro shacks and barracks. Names like Foggy Bottom, Snows Court, Louse Alley, Shad Row and others go back to that era.

Pauperism then as now characterized the population, as Washington has never had enough work for unskilled labor, but the rents climbed whenever work on public buildings or a war put Negro housing at a premium. Today, due to overcrowding, the income from these properties is at a peak.

New Ones Squeeze In

Here in Washington the same lack of good sense has been demonstrated that I found repeated over and over again in war centers. Negro housing for immigrant workers everywhere has been insufficient, and the already overcrowded Negro quarters had to squeeze in the newcomers. The results here must be seen to be believed. No only houses have been subdivided, but small rooms, already too filthy for animal habitation, have been partitioned with cardboard to absorb more tenants. 2-6-44

In Burke's Court, 14 occupants have been stowed away in a single room; in Ninth st. nw., a small house holds 19 persons, while a woman and three children lived in the basement.

Five or six persons to a room, occupying at times a single bed, is a commonplace. The outdoor toilets are frequently stopped up, so that several neighboring houses, as well as the passerby, use the nearest obtainable facilities.

In one row of houses the toilet and the well, where water is pumped by hand, are 4 feet apart. I remembered this pretty fact shamefacedly when I wrote of similar insanitary conditions at Willow Run, where temporary boom-town difficulties made them more excusable than in the Nation's Capital.

Here are some notes taken on the spot describing these slum dwellings—"4 rooms and bath, rotten kitchen floor, defective rain gutter, roof leaks, stopped-up toilet, hole in floor, rent, $17.50 per month" . . . "Holes in wall plaster, rats, defective door lets in rain, toilet won't flush, pipes leak, rotten window frames, rotten floor, split chimney wall, rent, $15.50 per month." 2-6-44

Nothing Available

These are not exceptional reports. They repeat themselves monotonously. Many of the toilets have such defective doors that they afford no privacy. One row of houses below the street level and continually damp has such a long record of tuberculosis that it is popularly known as T. B. row.

How can such uncivilized things happen in Washington? Is there no inspection? Of course there is, by six different departments. But what can, for instance, our very competent Health Department do about it? The only thing it can do is put the tenants on the street because there is not, and has not been for six months, a single available Negro dwelling in Washington, except a few for inmigrant warworkers.

Since 1897 the District law requires that no room should be used for sleeping purposes without at least 50 square feet of floor space per person. Last December the Commissioners had the bright idea of enforcing this regulation against overcrowding by penalizing "the person whose presence causes it" to the tune of $300. As long as there were a few rooms left in the National Capital Housing Authority projects, the sanitary inspectors could get results, but now it is a waste of time to go through the intricate proceedings of prosecuting landlords or tenants.

When the victims are expelled from one overcrowded place, they are taken in by relatives or friends whose rooms are still more congested.

Many families are broken up in this process, the parents and children scattering to any haven of refuge. It is futile and unjust for congressional investigators to blame our hard pressed officials for such conditions. Bad as most of these slum pig sties may be, they cannot be condemned until there is some place for the Negro to go. He must have a roof over his head even if it leaks, and pushing these people around needlessly increases their resentment.

It would be much more to the point if the Health Department were praised by Congress for having achieved a marked improvement in the general health under such handicaps. 2-6-44

What aggravated a bad situation early in the war was the "bootleg" landlord who saw a chance to make a fortune out of other people's misery. One man bought every dilapidated shack he could find. These he "repaired" with refuse from the city dump, furnished with rusty iron beds and other junk he found there, and proceeded to rent rooms by the month, week or night. In his heydey he had over a hundred such dives.

He collected his rent, club in hand, selling "numbers" as he went. Liquor, dope and prostitution were little sidelines. When such creatures or their agents are caught operating without license and the city marshals clean out their illicit houses, the subtenants are put on the street without protection under any law, and must shift for themselves, though the Welfare Department does what it can.

Many tenants of these fly-by-night operators are constantly in an uproar because they are in jeopardy of eviction whenever the middleman fails to pay his rent on time.

Remodeling is another racket. One decent family with two children was suddenly evicted from a six-room house they had rented eight years, paying $40.50. The owner made $49.50 per room with the communal use of the bath out of his new "apartments" until the Rent Control Bureau caught up with him. But real rent control is impossible unless the victims of subletting make complaints. The only bright spot in the situation are the reputable real estate firms that charge reasonable rents and are patient with tenants who fall in arrears. 2-6-44

As Senator Capper has stated repeatedly at the present senatorial hearings on housing:

"The chief reason why the alley slums have not been eliminated is because they are remunerative."

They always have been, even before the present boom. Many of them are so concealed that the average person never sees them. If these blighted areas were not hidden behind fronts, some of which, to be sure, are showing signs of decay, the indignation of the public would long ago have demanded concerted action for their removal.

Moreover, it is the shortage of housing for these very low income groups that makes them pay, and makes it unnecessary to keep them in decent repair. Landlords who are unwilling to keep up their property can only be forced to do so by a court order, which would almost invariably lead to condemnation of the building. This, again, would put the slum dwellers on the street with no place to go.

That is why the owners of these filthy, defective quarters are reaping a fortune. Their profits are as high as 25 per cent in normal times, and now many of the bootleg landlords as well as certain leeches who have always preyed upon these poor people are making fortunes.

Fewer Negro Sections

The crowding in the slums of the District has also been intensified by the fact that not only housing but the areas formerly occupied by Negroes have decreased. Various developments such as public buildings, war housing projects for whites and new roads have swept away many acres of ground heretofore open to Negro occupancy.

Within the District the construction of Federal buildings along the Mall displaced hundreds of Negro families; the improvement of the West End, or Foggy Bottom, area had the same effect. In Georgetown, only remnants of a long-established Negro population now remain, because so much of their property has been purchased and improved for white occupancy. Again, in the Southeast section of the District, a new military road to Camp Springs has destroyed more than a hundred old Negro homes, and so it goes.

Yet objections are raised against new sites for Negro housing within the District and our neighboring States of Maryland and Virginia do not welcome Negro housing across the District line, though they encourage white suburban developments.

Arlington County illustrates the most acute effects of displacement of Negroes by public condemnation unaccompanied by public responsibility for rehousing. The Penta-

Take the Navy buildings and their road systems displaced 225 Negro families, some of whom had lived there since the Civil War. The only provisions made for them were trailers followed by 100 temporary houses, but no substitute was found for the land these people owned. Yet nearby thousands of permanent dwellings for whites were built with public funds.

What Is Slum Cost?

What do these slums cost the city now? During the depression years 70 per cent of the relief cases were Negro population, which remained in steady proportion in these districts. One-quarter of the tuberculosis cases in whites, about 28 per 1940 came from that area, and forced upward propmore than half the patients at St. Elizabeths.

The spread of tuberculosis in these congested, leaky dwellings can be easily understood, and the be depressed and the burden upon the Nal increased.

If all the outlying territory is

frequent mental breakdowns among Negroes would indicate that they are not quite as happy in poverty and degradation as is sometimes assumed.

Infant mortality is more than twice as high among District Negroes as among whites.

The slums have always been a focal point for the spread of venereal disease. The Negro is usually blamed for this, as the Negro's national rate is from five to seven times that of white people, according to statistics on the first two million selectees. But medical men have pointed out "that the most outstanding characteristic of areas of high prevalence for both Negro and white is a low economic status."

City officials and the United States Public Health Service have made a notable achievement in reducing the District rate, but the Negro girls aged 12 to 14, were infected by two temporary boarders in one house. Three of the girls had bad records, but one child, first offender, was lured into the situation by her companions. The pattern of behavior long established in the alleys is impossible to resist except by the strongest characters.

The wonder is that so many of the slum families are decent, keep their houses clean and preserve good moral standards.

The Alley Authority

The records of the Children's Court indicate that delinquency among Negro children has markedly improved since the war has increased the family income, and made it possible for more mothers of young children to remain at home. Whereas Negro delinquency used to represent 75 per cent of the total at the peak, it has now dropped to 58 per cent, but the increase of white delinquents counts for some of the sharp comparative decrease.

Twenty per cent of the delinquents committed to institutions or on probation before the war came from these slums, and 36 per cent of all the arrests were from these areas.

The total costs to the community of our 20,000 substandard houses, aside from health, delinquency and crime, namely, the endless court proceedings, the work of city officials, institutional care and other factors, is impossible to estimate, but, all told, the rest of the District inhabitants pay an enormous price for these slum conditions, economically, physically and morally.

Several of them have already graduated from public housing to private houses and home ownership, and many more are ready to do so, if only they were available. In other words, the Negro will work if he gets a chance. The District officials for the past 10 years have conducted an experiment which sheds light on this problem. They set up, with congressional support of Congress, the Alley Dwelling Authority in 1934, to receive regular appropriations and the program of rehabilitation was to be completed in 10 years.

Of the three million suggested appropriation, the Alley Dwelling Authority received $865,000, as its total capital, with which 14 squares were redeveloped.

With additional loans from the USHA it built some 2600 dwellings. They were grouped together, in two different projects. It is significant that over 55,000 Negroes, war workers, were there no friction has already become clear through the NCHA's experiments that decent housing creates a superior neighborhood pattern of behavior to which the members of the community conform even when they are not conscious of a desire to do so.

Their Progress

In the early projects constructed by the Alley Dwelling Authority, several projects were necessarily for Negroes, now called the National Capital Housing Authority, housing is a utopia where all ills are cured. The Negro needs, most of all, a continuation of what the attempts at education of whatever nature must contend with low and slum a chance to make a living. But it has already become clear through the NCHA's experiments that decent housing creates a superior neighborhood pattern of behavior to which the members of the community conform even when they are not conscious of a desire to do so.

Good housing is an education in itself, whereas in the slums all the efforts at education are nullified. Not more than a quarter of the children in one project can be counted on to attend school, and the next day encountered a different number of my audience, an undernourished, wizened youngster of 16, in a tumble-down, dirty, overcrowded alley dwelling.

Against such odds, all welfare work, health programs and educational efforts, though more necessary, are largely wasted.

Housing, Hospitals, Schools and Child-Care: Harlem Needs More

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 1-5-44

By Eugene Gordon

(Fourth in a series of article-interviews with leaders of the Harlem community on what, in their opinions, has been done since the outbreak of Aug. 1, last year, to prevent a recurrence. Eleven suggestions made by the Citizens Emergency Conference for Interracial Unity, Hunter College, Sept. 25, 1943, were the basis of the interviews.)

Opinions on points from 1 through 5 have already appeared in this series; 1, Appointment of an interracial committee by the Mayor—promised; 2, Negro appointees "on all municipal policy-making bodies concerned with education, health, police protection," etc.—not yet; 3, "Equal employment opportunities for all men and women, regardless of race, creed, or color"—some improvement noted; 4, "Full protection of consumer interests in Harlem," etc.—partially realized through establishment of Harlem OPA; 5, Public market for Harlem—promised, $50,000, according to regional OPA director Daniel P. Woolley, having been laid aside. 1-5-44

The conference's seventh suggestion was that the city's agreement with Metropolitan Life be abrogated. It hasn't been done, of course. Mr. Lewis (Urban League), with reference to the eighth suggestion—"Adequate health, education, and child-welfare service to meet community needs"—said, briefly, "Still inadequate." Mr. Collins (Negro Labor Victory Committee), felt that very little had been done, but Mr. Collier (Citywide) said: "The Mayor has promised $22,000,000 for development of recreational facilities in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area as a result of pressure."

Miss Gaulden (Communist Party) brings the subject back to Harlem with the observation that the city has a five-story new building, adjoining the Harlem Hospital, standing idle. It is a building intended for child-welfare services, says Miss Gaulden, who was for 18 years a registered nurse in that hospital and knows it from one end to the other and from top to bottom. Equipped and working, she says, that building would help a great deal in solving the child-welfare problem in Harlem.

HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Dr. Jacob Goldman, deputy superintendent of the Harlem Hospital, said that this building would be completed—that is, fully equipped—"early in 1944" and that only two of its five floors would be wholly for children. Adults, however, would gain more space in the old building by the children's moving out—perhaps 50 or more beds. Other significant improvements are on the books for this hospital. All this comes under the head of long-range planning.

The sixth suggestion for immediate action was **"Unrestricted and rent-controlled private housing and non-segregated public housing accommodations for Negroes in Metropolitan New York."** Community leaders agreed that this suggestion has been carried out with respect to rent control, Harlem now having it along with the rest of New York City. 1-5-44

Unrestricted private housing for Negroes in this city is a goal still to be reached.

Mr. Strong, of the National Negro Congress, thought Councilman Davis might study the possibilities of a law to compel the renting of private housing to all citizens, regardless of race, nationality or religion. Mr. Marshall, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, foresaw conflict with existing state laws, such laws being especially partial to the landlords. Mr. Lewis feels that "the legal possibilities ought to be explored to the limit," but thinks Councilman Davis's time should be expended on bills that stand a fair chance of passing. He thinks it a matter for the state legislature.

"STUYVESANT TOWN"

They all point to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.'s proposed "Stuyvesant Town," already approved by the city (despite its declared intention to bar certain American citizens) as an example of private landlords' contempt for the people's democratic right to live where they please. **These leaders remind us, on the other hand, of such successful non-segregated public housing projects as the East Side, in Upper Manhattan, and Kingsborough, Brooklyn.** 1-5-44

Points 8, 9 and 10 in the conference's suggestions call for federal action to end segregation and discrimination in the armed forces; federal action against fifth-column organizations and activities "which instigate racial and religious antagonism"; passage of the anti-poll tax bill in 1943.

Mr. Strong made this specific statement on fifth-column activities:

"Instead of taking action against those forces which stir up racial and religious antagonism, certain sections of the Federal government have taken action in the opposite direction. Note, for instance, the persecution of Mrs. Browder. The Moscow, the Cairo and the Tehran conferences indicate, however, what the world's progressives—including the Negro people of the United States—are capable of doing."

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City officials and the United States Public Health Service have made a notable achievement in reducing the District rate, but the victory is and always will be temporary while living conditions in our slums remain what they are. "Roamin' men," as a colored clergyman calls the floaters in the slums, are as much a source of infection as the more publicized "pick-up" girl. Recently four Negro girls aged 12 to 14, were in one house affected by two temporary boarders. Three of the girls had bad records, but one child, a first offender, was lured into the situation by her companions. The pattern of behavior is impossible in the alleys is impossible to resist except by the strongest characters.

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The total costs to the community of our 20,000 substandard houses, aside from health, endless court proceedings, the work of city officials, institutional care and other factors, is impossible to estimate, but, all told, the rest of the District inhabitants pay an annual tax for these slum conditions, economically, physically and morally.

To what extent would these bur dens be alleviated, to what extent would the Negro in the lowest income group be benefitted by a better environment?

District officials for the past 10 years have conducted an experimental program of these areas. With additional loans from the USHA it built some 2600 dwellings, some on slum sites, some on adjacent vacant properties. When the war came, all housing authorities, whether Federal, had to confine their efforts to providing for immediate war workers.

It is significant that over 55,000 new housing units have been constructed for white tenants in the past four years in the metropolitan area, and about 4000—half of them for Negroes, are and about 4000—for Negroes, temporary structures—for Negroes.

The temporary structures—although the Negro population need of space. This pitiful record is better than that I have visited.

In the early projects constructed by the Alley Dwelling Authority the Alley Dwelling Authority, now called the National Housing Authority, several projects for white tenants were necessarily for Negroes, but already marked. As some of these apartments creased the rents, are in perpetual conflict. This was come brackets. At first all of the graded rents, forcefully impressed upon me when families were on graded rents, which means they could not afford to pay the economic rent, the difference being subsidized by the

2-6-44

2-6-44

Not only was there no friction between the two groups, but now one type of family cannot be told from the other, so quickly did the better conform to the more fortunate group.

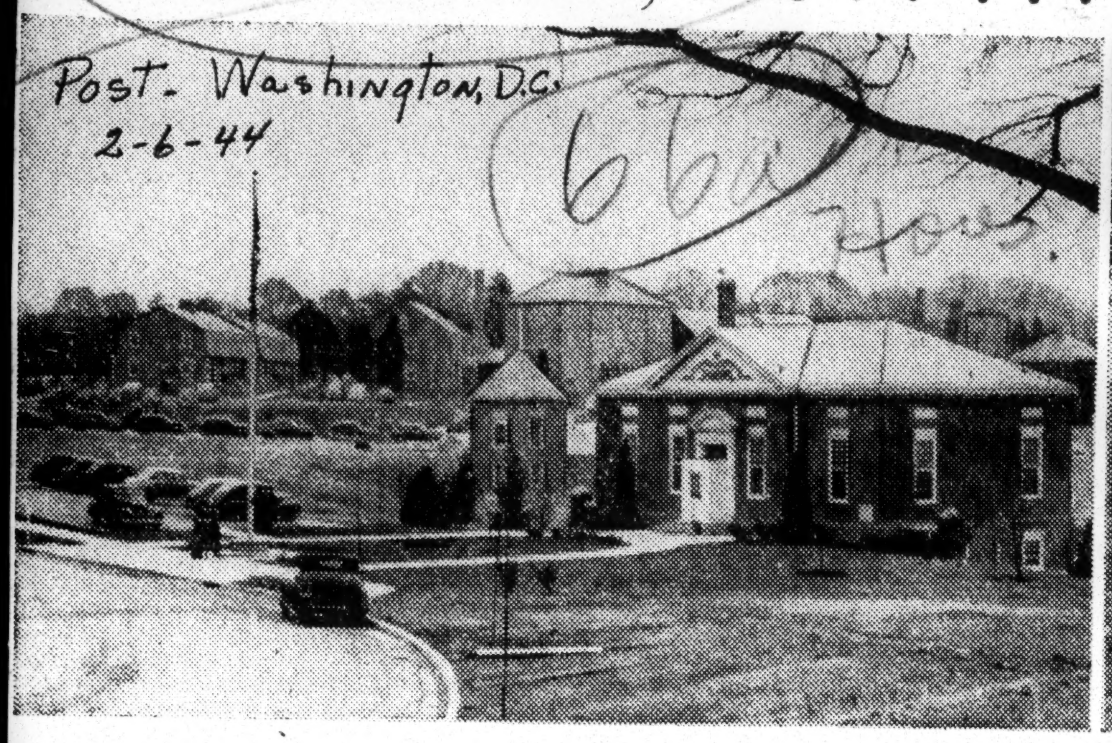
Yet there is no personal supervision in these housing units, nor private affairs of the tenants. Good housing is an education in itself, whereas in the slums a neighbor policy.

It would be foolish to claim that no rules other than a good housing is a utopia where all ills of society disappear. The Negro needs, most of all, a continuation of what the war has offered so many of them—a chance to make a living. But it has already become clear through the NCHA's experiments that decent housing creates a superior behavior pattern of the community and the individual. The Negro in Washington is an educated, well-behaved citizen. The schools are overcrowded alley dwellers, and overcrowded alley dwellers, and overcrowded alley dwellers, and

66a-1944

Housing

For Some Newcomers, This . . . . . For Some Old Residents, These



THE TOP OF THE SLOPE AND THE BOTTOM—Some white newcomers to Washington have been able to obtain housing in Fairlington development (left), where the average rent is $75 a month. Fairlington alone has 3400 units. Yet Negro families displaced by the Pentagon Building were provided only with trailers (right) and 100 temporary houses. Some of these Negro families had lived on the Pentagon site since the Civil War. The particular family shown here had their own home and garden until three years ago. Then, despite their seven children, they were obliged to take to trailers

First Lady Sees Peril in Negro Housing Curbs

Post- Washington, D.C.
1-18-44

Discounting objections of "the few," Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt yesterday asked that zoning restrictions detrimental to Negro housing needs in Washington be viewed in the light of "the greatest good for the greatest number."

Again entering into the growing discussion of Negro homes in the Nation's Capital, the First Lady told her press conference that overcrowded housing conditions which result from the inability of Negroes to find adequate facilities will ultimately "menace" the entire city.

Opposes Certain Restrictions

Mrs. Roosevelt strongly argued against zoning restrictions which keep Negroes out of those sections which they may otherwise be able to afford. She stressed that "each case should be judged on its merits," when asked whether she advocated change of all zoning regulations to permit occupancy by Negroes. 1-18-44

Reiterating a previous statement, the President's wife declared that she had no intention of apologizing to the Bradbury Heights Citizens Association for having written in her syndicated column that the association's opposition was directed toward making impossible erection of Negro apartment houses on sites located in the center of a Negro residential district.

Will Visit Neighborhood

She added that she intended to visit the neighborhood to verify her information that it was a Negro section.

Commenting on opposition voiced by white and Negro property owners, Mrs. Roosevelt said that it is "unfortunate that these few have to suffer," but insisted that the housing needs of the many should be considered above all.

The First Lady recalled earlier statements that crowding of Negroes is already a health and social menace to their own race and may spread to the entire city if housing arrangements are not made for them. 1-18-44

Mrs. Roosevelt also told her press conference that the impending arrival of the President of Venezuela and "a few other complications" make it impossible for her to attend the executive committee session of the American Federation of Labor in Miami tomorrow.

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
March 21, 1944

CITY ASKED TO VOID OLD TAXES ON NEGRO HOMES

The Tampa Housing authority appealed to the board of aldermen yesterday to cancel or reduce a mountain of back taxes standing against the homes of some Negro families who have to vacate the site of the big housing project at 22nd street and Lake avenue.

The principal problem is the assessment of hundreds of dollars against lots facing on Lake avenue for paving, which if paid would not leave the home owners enough to re-establish themselves.

Take the case of Mary Washington, 78, for example.

She owns her home at 2208 East Lake ave. The Federal Public Housing authority paid her $800 for the lot on which her home stands and permitted her to move the house off.

Back Taxes Are High

Charles B. Carrigan, regional land adviser for the FPHA, said it would cost her $185 to move her house, and vacant lots in the neighborhood, which went begging for $50 or $100 a year or two ago are now bringing $300 or more.

But the toughest problem of all is $772 in back taxes against the old Negro woman's home, including $456 for the paving of Lake avenue.

Then there are Rosa and Robert Evans, who have two houses on one lot at 2502-2504 Lake avenue. They paid $450 in paving taxes to the city on a lot that appraisers for the FPHA valued at $150.

The FPHA gave her the houses and paid her $800 for the lot, but it will cost her $375 to move the two buildings, and then there is the cost of one or two lots to be bought.

These cases are typical of several others.

"We feel that the city should materially reduce the taxes against Mary Washington's place and give Rosa and Robert Evans a rebate for most of the money they paid," said Carrigan.

Refers to Adjustments

"I understand the city has been adjusting back takes for as little as $50 on lots in this territory. For example, I have a report on an 85-foot lot cleared for $50 by the former city administration.

"I understand that some streets in Tampa have been paved at no cost to the property owners, so why should these Negroes have to pay so much?"

"It looks to me that the money these Negroes receive is not enough to pay up their back taxes and permit them to move," said William E. Thompson, the city's tax attorney.

"It looks to me like confiscation," said Alderman Klay.

NEGRO HOUSING FOR NEWCOMERS NEEDED NOW

Newport News, Va., Press

Negro servicemen and their families and the many Negro civilian workers coming to this area have not been neglected in Newport News.

Primarily through efforts of the room registry committee of the Jefferson avenue USO, working in cooperation with the Travelers Aid division, Negro homeowners have responded as well or even better than white residents.

During the month of February, homes were found for 157 couples, principally servicemen stationed at Fort Eustis, Camp Hill and Camp Patrick Henry, their wives and families.

Mrs. Mary C. Stowrs, 655-22nd St., is chairman of the volunteer group, working from her home. Accommodations are found through appeals to civic and club groups and in the churches. She is assisted by 14 volunteers, Mrs. Geraldine King, Mrs. Birdie Herndon, Mrs. E. B. Tucker, Mrs. Francis Scott, Mrs. Estelle Pratlow, Mrs. J. S. Lee, Mrs. Rebecca Cofield, Mrs. Mattie Lipscomb, Mrs. Lucille Crump, Mrs. G. Harmon, Mrs. J. S. Crump, Mrs. M. Williams, Mrs. Hargraves and Mrs. Berchert.

"The need for lodgings is becoming increasingly great", Mrs. Stowrs declared, explaining that many civilian workers are moving into the community at this time. To date, 30 civilian families have been found homes for the month of March.

"Our problem is not one of finding lodgings on weekends, but of permanent residences", she added. "Conditions have been acute with the combination of servicemen and civilians seeking rooms. We plan another appeal next week through the churches and civic organizations for additional rooms".

The room registry service committee operates in a manner similar to the Travelers' Aid but with all volunteer workers. They receive telephone calls and appeals for lodgings from early morning often until midnight. A card system is used to identify and introduce the applicant to the homeowner who lists a room with the committee.

When asked if the committee had had any trouble with homeowners overcharging for their accommodations, Mrs. Stowrs replied:

"They have been very reasonable and considerate; we have had no trouble with overcharging, just with

Poor Negro Housing Spurs Racial Tension in Chicago

PM- New York, N.Y.
1-3-44

Special Correspondent

CHICAGO, Jan. 3—A serious race tension—based primarily on inadequate housing facilities for Negroes and growing out of the evil of re-

Restrictive Covenants Foster 'Black Belt'

By SHIRLEY KATZANDER

strictive covenants—exists in Chicago today. With the influx of war workers, bad feeling between Negro and white has sharpened.

Migration to Chicago's war plants has been heavy, and housing is scarce for all. For Negroes, housing is three times as scarce and many times as expensive. Crowded into Chicago's "Black Belt" there are now more than 300,000 Negroes in a narrow strip of land from which they cannot move.

Reason for Tension

The feeling is rising now because of:

¶ Intensified real estate Jim Crowism. 1-3-44

¶ Wartime profiteering by landlords, both Negro and white, and a play by landlords on the old "fears" about each other by Negro and white landlords.

¶ OPA is, in the majority of cases, following a color line in establishing rentals.

¶ The National Housing Agency continues to skirt the problem of restrictive covenants by ignoring it.

These restrictive covenants exist through clauses in leases which bar Negroes and members of other racial groups from renting or purchasing property. An old State law, which has been challenged several times recently, has upheld the legality of these clauses.

The current situation can be laid at the door of real estate owners who years ago agreed not to rent to Negroes beyond a specific area, so that on the West Side of one street Negroes in poor buildings are paying $30 to $50 for two rooms, a shared bath and community kitchen. On the East Side in the area which has become depressed, white tenants are paying $25 to $30 for five rooms with private bath and kitchen. 1-3-44

Heat Shut Off

Today, Negroes are breaking through the restrictive covenants in the immediate areas by legal means. The white owner hires a Negro manager. He then tells his tenants, "I'm afraid you'll have to move. They're moving Negroes in here and you know what that means." The manager then tells his people, "There are whites in this building and you'd better behave or they'll take care of you."

In some cases, landlords have shut off heat, light and water to force a condemnation proceeding, and after the whites move out, "convert" the building into the well known Negro kitchenette. Where the white tenant formerly paid $30 for five rooms, the manager cuts up the apartment into

Judge Charles S. Daugherty of Renter's Court, Chicago, who has followed an Appellate Court ruling that a lease prohibiting Negroes from occupying an apartment is legal.

two two-room units and a one-room unit, converts the bath and kitchen into community use, and charges about $75 dollars for the same unit.

According to OPA laws he can establish his first rent after such conversion, with OPA reserving the right to lower it. Although rents have been lowered in some cases, many rents are kept high because Negroes have always paid higher rents in the adjacent areas.

By conversion the manager means throwing up some plaster board partitions locking doors, and throwing a few pieces of old, dirty furniture into a unit. The vermin remain. One woman told me, "I have to spray my bed every night before I can sleep. The bedbugs eat you alive." Cook County Hospital has countless cases of Negro babies having been brought in with their arms, and legs and bodies chewed and bitten by rats.

At a recent forum meeting of NHA officials with Negro and white leaders, Robert Travis, Secretary of the CIO Cook County Council, said, "NHA has completely missed the boat. The situation here is comparable to that of Detroit, where housing was one of the primary reasons for the riots."

In Chicago, Judge Samuel Heller, of Renter's Court, so far is the only one to raise his voice against the restrictive covenants. Blasting what he termed "Hitler racism," he ruled recently that a lease barring Negroes from occupancy of an apartment is "illegal." Shortly after that, however, Judge Charles S. Daugherty, also of Renter's Court, followed an Illinois Appellate Court ruling declaring such leases legal. Judge Daugherty added a plea that his decisions be appealed, however. 1-3-44

In another situation, Judge Heller refused to permit the Illinois Institute of Technology to evict 1500 Negroes from the Mecca, a huge and ancient tenement building. The Institute, after purchasing the property, wanted to raze the buildings, for postwar expansion of the school.

My Day

By Eleanor Roosevelt

World-Telegram—New York, N.Y. 1-5-44

WASHINGTON, Tuesday.—I have a number of letters asking me why I am so interested in Negro housing in Washington when white people find it so difficult to get decent housing, not only in Washington, but in many other places in the United States. The answer is that there are more people to speak for white tenants than there are for colored tenants.

Aside from that, if we allow restriction of areas in any city which has an increasingly large colored population, we shall have, as in Washington, D. C., colored areas where health is bad. Overcrowding will affect the moral conditions for young people as well as old and make the city less safe for all its inhabitants.

* * *

Here are some real facts about colored housing in the District of Columbia. These facts could be duplicated in other places. There is a shortage of habitable homes for Negroes all over this country. Private builders in Washington are being urged to construct 2767 homes for them.

The response of the builders is excellent because they recognize that there is a postwar market for medium and low-cost houses, both those built for buying and renting. Builders, however, are meeting with some unfortunate obstacles. In areas which have been long established as Negro, like the Garfield section in southeast Washington, there has been an infiltration of a few white families. Now, citizen's associations and property owners want to take over parts of these established Negro communities for white tenancy alone.

* * *

In Bradbury Heights there is opposition to the erection of apartments on an undeveloped site which is in the center of a Negro residential district. Most recent obstacles to the building of 744 units in these two areas are petitions presented to the zoning commissioner asking for rezoning of special sections of these areas. 1-5-44

This rezoning will affect the building of 744 garden-type apartments by requiring that in one case single-family homes be built, and in the other case row houses in groups of three or less be put up. This would raise the cost of each unit and would put them beyond the means of colored war workers.

This proposal to herd our citizens according to race and religion has many serious disadvantages and should be fought, I believe, by all people interested in the future peace and unity of our nation.

Negro Housing
Post—Washington, D.C.

Let me congratulate The Post for its splendid article describing the need for better housing for Negroes. 2-18-44

The people of Washington are very grateful to Mrs. Meyer, The Post and the hundreds of white citizens who are warning the people that unless something is done soon to increase and improve housing for Negroes many grave consequences will result. Except for the very limited areas in which they now live, Negroes are being severely restricted or barred in nearby Maryland and Virginia. Zoning regulations and title covenants block the spread of Negroes in the counties adjacent to Washington. Citizens' associations or realtors are opposing the extension of Negro housing in almost every direction in Washington. This means that all of the central city will eventually be housed almost entirely by Negroes.

The outlook for the future is dark. One of the greatest sins in our democracy now is the technique of segregation or of ghettoism of the Negro peoples. There is no good reason for this social form of ostracism. Negroes and whites have lived in the same block, and side by side in mutual respect in many of our Southern cities for many years. 2-18-44

E. B. HENDERSON.

Falls Church, Va., Feb. 14.

OPA Rents and Negroes

Dear Editor: PM—New York, N.Y.

The story in PM for Jan. 4 discusses one of Chicago's most critical wartime problems, the crowding of 300,000 Negroes into a relatively small South Side section, where accommodations in many instances are notoriously substandard and rents are disproportionately high. 1-25-44

The article contains the statement: "OPA is, in the majority of cases, following a color line in establishing rentals." I should like to correct the implication of this sentence, that the OPA discriminates against Negro tenants in administering the rent regulations.

The Chicago rent regulation, by and large, froze the rent pattern which existed in Chicago on Mar. 1, 1942. The OPA did not, and could not, attempt to equalize or rationalize the rents in a community; its statutory function is only to stabilize those rents, as against unwarranted increases after the freeze date. 1-25-44

On Mar. 1, 1942, and for many years before, rents in the South Side Negro section were generally higher than for similar accommodations in adjoining "white sections." The curing of this long-standing inequality is not within the scope of the Emergency Price Control Act and the rent regulations issued under its authority.

However, the rent regulations have prevented drastic general rent increases which would undoubtedly have occurred in the South Side Negro section during 1942 and 1943.

ALEX ELSON,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region VI,
Office of Price Administration
Chicago

Abolition of Housing Authority Would be Tragedy, Says Y Group

Tribune—Washington, D.C. 1-29-44

The committee of management of the Twelfth Street YMCA recently adopted unanimously the following statement of its view on public housing in the District of Columbia:

Slum housing is detrimental to the health and morale of persons forced to live under such conditions.

Low-rent public housing is an absolute necessity to meet the needs of low-income groups of persons in order to provide a decent living standard.

The National Capital Housing Authority, formerly the Alley Dwelling Authority, as an agency of public housing, has constructed thousands of public housing units for low income persons through its program of slum clearance and has elevated the standard of living of former slum dwellers. 1-29-44

The committee of management is unqualified in its position in favor of low-rent public housing and is opposed to the position of organizations calling for the abolition of the National Capital Housing Authority which would be a tragedy to persons of low-income and to Washington.

It Happened at City Hall

The Worker-New York, N.Y. 3-26-44

By Councilman Peter V. Cacchione

Gouging the Negro Tenant

THE labor movement and all other win-the-war organizations in the city had better turn their eyes to the rent control division of the Office of Price Administration. In plain, ordinary English, they are just getting away with "blue murder." It is not the employes of the OPA Rent Control Division I wish to criticize. The difficulties that have arisen are due to the attitude of the head of the Rent Control Division, Colonel Jallade. The following situation has come to my attention.

There is an apartment house at 80-105 Lefferts Place, Brooklyn, composed of 65 apartments. This house formerly was occupied by white tenants. About the middle of last year the building was bought by the Levy Real Estate Sorp. They immediately began to serve notice on the white tenants to move, and the management then began to rent the apartments to Negro tenants. This continued until the whole house was occupied by Negro tenants. The management personally interviewed and cross-examined each tenant, and then investigated him in order to make sure that they were the "best type" of colored people.

Rents were raised. The Negro tenants paid about $9,000 per year more in rents than the white tenants had paid. In some apartments the rent was raised as much as $25 to $30 per month.

In November the tenants went on a rent strike because it appeared that the rent control office was going to stall on the case. They elected a committee to collect the rent from the tenants, and this committee held the money in escrow until the case was decided. They were dissuaded from continuing the rent strike.

The Rent Control office began an investigation which lasted three months. They personally investigated each apartment to see if any major capital improvement had been made as claimed by the landlord. The Rent Control office held in its possessions twenty-two pieces of evidence composed of cancelled checks and old rent receipts which had been turned over to them by the tenants of the house. The tenants obtained this evidence by copying down the names of the former white tenants that appeared on an old name plate board, and each former tenant was called up and interviewed, and these former tenants turned over the evidence to the committee. At the end of the investigation the findings of the rent control staff fully substantiated the claims of the tenants. Everything seemed to point to a decision in compliance with the rent control order which states that rents cannot be more than rent charged on March 1, 1943, and any sums of rent paid about this figure after November 1, 1943 must be returned to the tenants. 3-26-44

At this point Colonel Jallade stepped into the picture. He personally visited the apartment house and reversed the decision of his own staff, which decision was based on three months of thorough and careful investigation. Naturally the tenants were in an uproar and threatened another rent strike. Colonel Jallade then ruled that the rents be reduced to about one half of what was being overcharged. Therefore, instead of the rents being reduced in the sum of $9,000 that the tenants were overpaying, Colonel Jallade ruled that the rents be reduced only about $4,000. At the present time everything is up in the air. The rents have been reduced $5,000, and the landlord has consented to pay back $1,000 more, which makes $6,000 reclaimed. The landlord consented to do this because it is practically definite that in his original statement filed with the OPA, he had made false statements, and such a long time had elapsed before a second statement was filed, that a technical question arose.

What I want to get at is this. You have heard the saying that the road to Hell is paved with good intentions. There are thousands of good laws that have passed and are on the statute books. Numerous good rulings have been made by Government agencies, but the effect of a good law or a good ruling can always be destroyed by a poor administrator or one who is not impartial. No good law or excellent ruling be enforced without a movement of the people backing it up to guarantee its enforcement. When labor is not alert, reaction is always prepared to punch a hole in the line. It appears that this is happening to the rent control order in New York City. If Colonel Jallade takes such a position regarding the rent control order what will the actions of his staff eventually be. It is evident that his staff will follow in line with the Colonel's policies. I have discovered a shocking situation regarding some of the rulings of our Rent Control Division of the OPA in New York City. I will deal with some of these shocking incidents in a further article within a few weeks. 3-26-44

From what is occurring it is clear that the labor movement in New York City must begin to stand up and fight back on this question. It must begin to demand that the rent control order be carried out with no subterfuge, and by officials who many ringers on my proof. carry out the order impartially instead of aiding the landlords as they are doing at the present time.

Not only labor but all the win-the-war forces should get into this fight. Rent control is part of holding the line in prices, and is part of fighting for the winning of the war.

War Stamps and Bonds sold through my office at 26 Court St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Sold Previously	$420,153.55
This week	1,003.75
Total to date	$421,157.30

NEWARK HOUSING UNIT BLOCKED

MRS. ALONZO BRISTOL, mother of 10 children, signs a petition seeking to speed the Federal housing project for Newark's Ironbound district. Photo at top shows typical tenements, many already condemned as unfit dwellings, in the industrial area.

Newark Manufacturers Against Housing Project

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 4-23-44

(Special to The Worker)

NEWARK.—The Ironbound Manufacturers Association is still opposing the Federal Housing Authority's project for a 150-family housing unit in the Iron bound district of Newark.

This industrial district, bound by three railroads, is inhabited by Negro and white war workers, who desperately need better housing.

Many of the citizens of this area, such as Mrs. Alonzo Bristol, a Negro mother with 10 children, live in dwellings that have been condemned by city authorities as unsafe.

It is obvious that the manufacturers' association is opposing the project because the Government refuses to draw the color line among its tenants, said Mr. Harold Lett, executive secretary of the Newark Urban League.

The manufacturers association, headed by Albert Neuschaler, a leader in the city's real estate board, at first supported the project. It began protesting against it when it found that Negroes would be admitted.

Mr. Lett, CIO spokesmen and other public spirited citizens, have been carrying on an active fight for the project. 4-23-44

The Communist Party of Essex County is conducting a petition drive among the Ironbound workers for quick action.

The Federal Housing Authority, meanwhile, appears to be standing by its guns. But maximum mass support is needed to assure speedy construction.

San Francisco Negro Population Gains 25,000; Housing Is Acute

Courier-Pittsburg, Pa. 1-8-44

By CALVIN GILBERT

SAN FRANCISCO—(ANP)—San Francisco, the city by the Golden Gate, a metropolitan city, a world seaport, a stronghold for organized labor, a city rich with romance and background! San Francisco before the war was all of this and is much added. The Negro population of San Francisco before the war was and, as is the case with all activity ite across the bay from this thriv- and industry, there have been many ing metropolis. changes.

FAMILIAR PROBLEM

The great influx of Negroes and their families to these parts has made a noticeable difference in many ways.

The estimated Negro population of the bay area which includes this city (the largest) Oakland, Berkeley, Richmond, Sausolita and several industrial towns nearby totals about 70,000. Present day San Francisco's Negro population is about 30,000 with another 40,000 residing in the towns named which

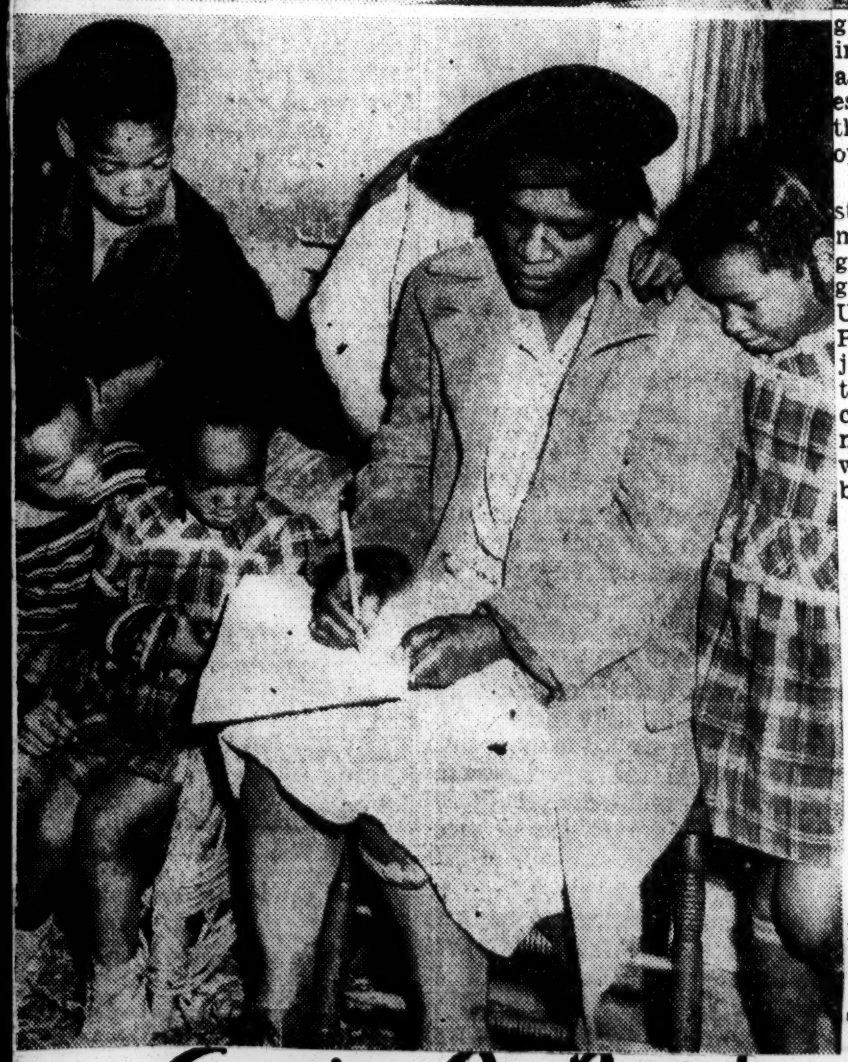
The problem created is that which is prevalent in any boom town and the fact that there is a war makes a greater complication. There is not enough of anything to accommodate the overflow population and the increasing demands for housing facilities, transportation accommodations and outlets for the average families pleasures. Many and most of the houses occupied by Negroes are dwellings

...sounding near their homes.

...stevedoring, work in small defense plants, a small percentage in aircraft factories, and many are employed as seamen in the U. S. Merchant Marine service.

MANY CREATE PROBLEM

...are many situations which arise that show a lack of foresight on the part of many of these migratory workers or new residents. A lot is lacking in the way of good citizenship. Many of the newcomers are careless in their regard for a clean city, for clean streets and for clean sur-



Survive Or Perish

Journal & Guide-Norfolk, Va.

By GORDON B. HANCOCK

1-8-44

The Housing Situation

IF THE HOUSING situation is acute for the nation, it is doubly acute for the Negro race. Whatever disadvantages and handicaps and dangers come to the nation from poor housing are indefinitely multiplied in the case of Negroes. What is taking place in our congested defense areas such as Hampton Roads, Virginia, is taking place among Negroes even where the exigencies of war are not operative.

DR. HANCOCK

Within the last few years great strides have been made in the matter of national housing. Negroes have shared in a lesser degree in this vast improvement. Under the matchless leadership of President Roosevelt housing projects are under way in most of the larger urban centers of the country. Negroes have shared most happily in the advantages which the Housing Authority has brought.

This writer was a member of President Hoover's Housing Commission and, from a study of the facts revealed, it was found that the nation as a whole was underhoused and often too poorly housed. This was true of urban and rural areas. Sociologists have long pointed out the close correlation between housing and health and crime. Where housing is best, crime and health register accordingly, with the former diminishing and the latter increasing.

EMPHASIS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

1-8-44

We have been too prone, however, to expect too much of good housing; and have not placed sufficient emphasis on the general economic situation. Improved housing in itself will not go to the heart of the matter of the poor and indigent classes. The baneful slums cannot be eradicated merely by erecting modern houses with modern conveniences.

The slum is as much a matter of psychology as of housing. Poor housing does not make slums, but poor do. The slum is the product of a slum-mindedness and until this is itself corrected the slum problem still remains. That is to say, problems of housing cannot be met merely by better housing; but by raising economically those who are the makers of the slums through their substandards of life.

Good housing is not the complete answer to the question of the slum. Unless the slum dweller is given economic opportunities commensurate with his improved housing, he will turn his improved housing into a slum. Good housing is a good starting place in the improvement of the lot of the lowly slum dweller; but it is just as well for us to realize that it does not fully answer the question of the slums and poor housing.

SOMETHING MORE THAN A STRUCTURE

The National Health Survey of 1935 revealed that illness and disability increase definitely as crowding increases; that this is especially true of the "contact" diseases such as influenza and tuberculosis; that this correlation holds true as well between lack of sanitary facilities and communicable digestive diseases; that home accidents increase heavily as the rental rates or values of the home decrease. As the survey pointed out, "Housing is something more than just a structure."

If the house lacks a safe water supply, toilet facilities, suitable means of refuse disposal, it has equipment inadequacies that present just as much of a health hazard as deficiencies in the structure itself. Said the survey report, "If the dwelling lacks sufficient living space, bedroom space and other elements to adequately accommodate the family living in the house, a convenience inadequacy exists."

It has been found that the incidence of group digestive diseases normally associated with lack of sanitation is 70 percent higher for persons in households without private inside flush toilets than for persons living in households with these conveniences.

PREVALENCE OF HOME ACCIDENTS

1-8-44

Pneumonia, tuberculosis, influenza, rheumatism and the communicable diseases of childhood are indissolubly bound up with the debilitation and breakdown of human resistance brought about in part by exposure to cold in ill-heated, ill ventilated and damp habitations, to say nothing of the psychological hazards which breed in the cheerlessness and depression of overcrowding.

Strangely enough there are years when home accidents exceed those of motor vehicles on the highways of the nation; but these home accidents fall largely in the low-rent areas and among the people who live there. Overcrowding, disease, crime, vice, illegitimacy, delinquency, drunkenness, drug addiction, and accidents are but a few of the evil fruits of poor housing with Negroes playing the leading role in the general suffering therefrom.

Negroes may well be cheered by the general interest of the nation in better housing. Any attempt to improve the country's housing is an indirect attack on the poor housing that is such an affliction to impecunious Negroes everywhere. Those in authority, whether they be white or colored, should see to it that Negroes get at least what they pay for in the matter of rent and purchases.

Very often Negroes are made to pay a higher rent for inferior houses, and Negroes too invariably pay exorbitant prices when they are "breaking into" white sections. Negroes must learn not to be swept from their common sense moorings by the mere notion that they are moving into erstwhile white communities.

HIGH RENT CHARGES

Just as the poorest Negroes are charged too high rents by hard-boiled landlords in too many instances, the better class Negroes are inclined to pay too high prices where whites are being displaced. The Federal Housing Authority needs not only to accelerate its proposed program of better housing, but also to protect the poorer elements of Negroes

Negroes Live In 400 Housing Units

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.
7-22-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— Negro tenants are living in some 400 public housing projects in 225 localities of 40 states and the District of Columbia, the Federal Public Housing Authority disclosed Wednesday.

Approximately 46,000 permanently built dwellings were provided under the United States Housing Act for Negroes, 24,000 war housing of a permanent nature have been utilized by Negroes. These dwellings are demountables, convertibles, trailers and other stop-gap units of a temporary nature being used for the duration.

There are 41,000 war housing dwellings also day.

South

"One Of The Tragedies Of The South"

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va. 2-5-44

WITH a few slight changes to make the comment refer directly to Negroes, a recent editorial in the Greensboro (N. C.) Daily News would be equally as pertinent an analysis of the blighting lack of opportunty for darker Americans in the South.

The industrial and political interests in the South are becoming more and more vocal about the disadvantages of discriminatory freight rates prevailing in the South. It may be a long process, but awareness by the South of the damages of discrimination in the economic field may eventually bring it to a realization of the harm being done to its own economy, as well as to that of the Negro, in keeping him in an underprivileged status by its own action and inaction, or both.

The following excerpt from the Daily News' editorial was not written with the Negro in mind, as we said, but its point is as relevant to him as to the subject under discussion by the Greensboro daily:

. . . . One of the tragedies of the South, from every angle, is the necessity for so many of its fine young men to have to go to other sections of the country to attain that degree of progress and of leadership of which they are so obviously capable. Skim casually through your "Who's Who in America" sometime and you will appreciate all the more what we are trying to say. 2-5-44

It is not merely in the skimming of the South's dollars that the rest of the country has treated the great productive area below the Mason and Dixon line as an outlying province.

Part of the responsibility for this draining doubtless rests upon the South itself for not duly impressing upon its youth the challenge, the opportunity, and the possibilities which await them in their own back—and front—yards, but by no means does all of it.

Afro American-
Baltimore, Md.

Inquiring Reporter

2-4-44

[The AFRO will pay $2 for each Inquiring Reporter question used. Send in your timely question.]

THE QUESTION

Do you believe our prettiest girls come from the South?

THE PLACE

Richmond, Va.

THE ANSWERS

Cpl. Minnard H. Jones, Camp Lee, Va.: "Having traveled widely throughout the South I am inclined to believe that our prettiest girls do come from the South. Many of them eventually go North for one reason or another. My vote goes to the South."

2-4-44

Edward Brown, 304 E. Clay Street: "Certainly. Inasmuch as my home is in the South, I would naturally think so. But I have done a great deal of traveling in other sections, and I still think we have the prettiest girls."

Sgt. John L. Dennis, Camp Lee, Va.: "I believe our prettiest girls come from the South. Having had many an opportunity to visit various sections of the country, I can arrive at no other conclusion. More of the prettier girls do come from the South."

S/Sgt. John Taylor, Atlanta, Ga., stationed at Camp Lee, Va.: "Yes, I do but I'm inclined to believe that a large percentage migrate to other sections of the country. Lena Horne, a Southern beauty, is just one example. Anyway, South of the "line" is where the beauty has its origin." 2-4-44

Lester Green, American Tobacco Co., employee: "As a native of the South, I agree. One reason that the prettiest girls are from the Southland is that they use less make-up and have more natural beauty. This would seem to cinch our claim for the prettiest girls."

South Has Its Chance--Millions Wait Its Action------Its Liberty Or Death

Weekly Review - Birmingham, Ala.

RANTING OF SENATORS AGAINST MINORITIES AT ALL TIME HIGH

2-4-44

The handwriting on the wall—the rantings of many Southern Senators o nthe phony race issue and the amens by many of their colleagues in this section h a s reached an all-time high.

There is one thing the Senators ought to realize — you can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time. They aren't fooling anybody either. The poor and downtrodden people all over the world know that the enemy of a poor devil in Georgia is an enemy of the poor devils all over over the world. They know that politicians aren't going to fight war or shed blod except by accident. Theirs is the game of playing on the emotions of the suckers to the end that they will get all red-eyed and go out and do the dirty work via lynching, unjust segregation and d scrimination laws and ungodly and ignorant violation of man's personality. 3-4-44

Threatening to kill millions of Negroes and those who are friendly toward them by such outbreaks as came from the South Calorina's legislators isn't going to frighten millions of common people even in the South, nor elsewhere all over the world.

The Negro in the South and all over the country wants justice now more than he wants life. What the South has by way of opportunity right now to do right by the Negro will be marked for millions of years to come by historians as the most ignominous day of its history. On the other hand if it rises to the occasion it will go down as its shining hour.

Much of this talk about correcting the multiplicity of evils against the Negro being something which cannot be done over night is down right phony. What the Negro is asking for today is what he has been asking for our upwards of five hundred years. It isn't going to be necessary to redo the Civil War, but I venture we will have a revolution in this country one of these days soon because the people — common people with a common destiny — will get the idea that we can get rid of congressmen and senators and supremacy officials who are trying to resurrect slavery in this nation. For me, I would rather die and go to hell a million times than to have my children face a world in which they will be slaves.

3-4-44

It seems to me that the daily newspapers of Birmingham who get upwards of thirty thousand or more dollars from Negroes each month ought to be sports enough to have thrown all that report of action on the South Carolina Legislature out the window. And, Negroes ought to get wise to this big play up of petty crime by the dailies. It would seem that the editors of the local daily papers are fairminded, but some one fills the news columns with anti-Negro propaganda daly. If I were a white "Southerner" I'd be ashamed of myself. I'd get wise to the fact that all decent people at home and abroad know a change for right and better is coming.

The South has its chance — millions wait its action. They want LIBERTY OR DEATH. They are willing to abide by the Golden Rule. They want to be friends, but they want JUSTICE. G O D wants the S t h ive it too.

Benighted South Carolina

Star of Zion, Charlotte, N.C.

Passage of a resolution by the South Carolina House of Representatives (representing white people only) which asserted its "allegiance to established white supremacy as now prevailing in the South," and which recorded that "we firmly and unequivocally demand that henceforth the damned agitators of the North leave the South alone," should cause no surprise whatever to persons who are informed as to the history of that sovereign state. March 6, 1944

If memory serves us correctly most history books record that South Carolina felt pretty much the same about slavery a hundred years ago. Indeed, the feeling was so strong that secession, rebellion and the war upon the United States followed. It now seems that some of the brethren in South Carolina are still of the same opinion and would fight the Civil War all over again.

One who tries to be Christian and American in times like these wonders just what ails the lawmakers of South Carolina. When it is known that that state is so far behind in the matter of education and other social and economic progress, it would seem there are other and far more important matters demanding their attention than "the damned agitators of the North."

The fiery language of the resolution sounds strangely like that of "a certain man, which had devils a long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not."

Can it be that the indignant gentlemen of South Carolina are pricked by their conscience, because they have been so cruelly negligent of their duty to their fellowmen, and are fearful that the Son of God in the spirit of righteousness and fairness may cast them out of the smug state if "white supremacy," of which they seem so sure and yet so fearful?

The resolution, coming on the heels of Senator Russell's bill to abolish the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, seems to take no account of the fact that Southerners have always been

on this committee, and one of the most highly esteemed justices of North Carolina now heads a special committee to investigate the conditions which lie within the province of the FEPC. Incidental-

ive lesson from her neighbor, North Carolina, who, instead of fuming about "white supremacy" is diligently seeking to remove the injustices suffered by the minority race group.

White Preacher Wants 'Negro Mammies' Ousted

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa
5-20-44

AUGUSTA, Ga.—According to an article appearing in the May 5 issue of the Augusta Chronicle here, Rev. Edgar C. Lucas (white) told the members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, meeting in regular session at Town Tavern, "the world is now experiencing a definite turning point in history, the greatest in 2,000 years."

HISTORY VS. PREJUDICE

This Christian minister in the course of his address, however, put in a few licks on the race question. Said, Dr. Lucas: "I do not believe in putting the formative years of a child's life under the care of a Negro." He pointed out that between the ages of three and five years a child becomes conscious of himself, both physically and mentally, and he intimated that that was the time children should have the best of guidance from a person other than a Negro.

SOUTHERN PREJUDICE TO STAY

The speaker declared that he sees no chance of anything in its present form surviving their period in its transition—even religion.

5-20-44

It would seem, according to this account, that there is a mortal conflict between the thought, words, ideals and changing events which the speaker claims to see, but his heart cannot believe.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender-Chicago, Ill.

By HAROLD PREECE

Bunk, Bottles, And Ballots

I'VE JUST come back from a crossroads town where I stopped at a medicine show that was playing in the little community.

We don't have much entertainment in southern villages—maybe a movie, and Negroes are generally kept out of it. So we flock to hear any wandering banjo picker who sings and scares us into buying Kickapoo Bitters for the misery ailing our stomachs.

The cure for most of our stomach misery would be hunks of steak rather than slabs of sowbelly, fresh garden stuff instead of dried peas, cod liver oil and orange juice instead of blackstrap molasses. But the patent medicine man takes our last dollars for his junk juice. You find his bottles on our shelves even when you see nary a trace of a milk bottle for kids shaky with rickets or scaly with pellagra.

In all these generations when we have bent our backs under the curse of the cotton patch, the patent medicine man has been our makeshift for the doctor who might heal the sick, starved stomachs of the South.

Today when stomachs are growling from hunger and from hate of the cotton patch, the southern pollcat bosses have dug into the compost heaps and dragged out another quack doctor. 2-5-44

He is the political medicine man. He does hymns and homey folk songs over the radio: he weeps, howls, and "prays" about "home," "mother," and "the Ten Commandments."

He has dope for our sick souls as the patent medicine man has bitters for our sick stomachs. His dope is a hophead dream set to fiddles, making us think that our miseries will stop plaguing us if we send him to our national capital as senator or congressman or to our state capital as governor.

His name is "Pappy" Lee O'Daniel in Texas and Jimmie Davis in Louisiana, Roy Acuff in Tennessee and "Colonel" Cliff Brannon in Georgia.

His tongue is with the millhand and his heart is with the millowner. He's far more dangerous than the sleazy, shaky wrecks who peddle little white powders on the side streets of Dallas and Denver.

And it's time to start doing something about him because he's multiplying down here in the South where all the human miseries are breaking out of bounds to destroy America.

No Laugh Now

IT WAS a good show that Pappy O'Daniel put on in Texas in that year of 1938 when he sang and "prayed" his way into the governor's office. Wasn't Texas funny then? But how much fun do you get out of Pappy's promotion to the United States Senate where he can help boost your grocery bill by voting to kill subsidies, where he can help pare your wages by sponsoring measures to highjack and hamstring labor?

The South puts on a good show, so long as the show sticks to the South. But, brother, the ticket comes high when the show moves North and drives its stake into your yard and your freedom.

I'm hoping that no serious American is laughing because Jimmie Davis, of Pappy O'Daniel's tribe, was high man in Louisiana's recent primary to choose a governor.

I'm hoping that a lot of serious Americans are worrying because the Grand Old Opry yodeller, Roy Acuff, may be the next governor of Tennessee. Acuff is following the trail doped out by Pappy. He's recently had a brand of flour named after him, and he'll be a hard man to beat if his name is on the primary ballot this coming August.

I'm hoping that serious Americans will start helping to change the southern score and see that Cliff Brannon, lawyer for the fiercely anti-labor Le Tourneau interests of Georgia, stays out of Congress. "Colonel" Brannon is also in the hallowed tradition of the flour sack—he sells his dope by means of a year-round radio revival and a professedly "religious" sheet called "Whosoever Heareth."

I'm hoping you will understand that all of us desperately want change here in the South—the kind of enlightened, democratic change that will let us have doctors for our wives when they bear our babies, that will let us have orange juice and other good foods for those babies so that their teeth won't rot out of their heads before they are grown.

Hand Of Judas

WHEN WE SCRAPE up money to pay our poll taxes to vote for those fiddling, flour peddling, dope doctors, we are voting very honestly for what we think is a change. Many an honest German voted for Hitler on pretty much the same grounds.

We've had so much of the old that it's easy to sell us something that looks new. It's easier still if the fellow, doing the selling, talks our jokey, neighborly language, if he sings the songs we've hummed ever since we were kids putting on our first cotton sacks. 2-5-44

We don't see the itching hand of Judas beneath the smiling face of the "messiah." We don't understand that the same old pollcats have trotted out the same old garbage to poison our stomachs and our souls.

"We don't understand well enough, in our country's war for survival, that the pollcats are tricking us into spreading their mess until the 48 states become one big garbage heap rotting with the bodies of dead Jews and dead Negroes.

We don't understand that the "hymn histers" and the flour peddlers are the pied pipers of the home made Hitlers, paid to sidetrack us from those new paths where our Negro neighbors—nine million of them—wait to march with us on the great highroad that leads to victory and prosperity for us and them.

For there is only one kind of medicine that will cure the sick South. That medicine is labelled "unity" and it is said to have some pretty powerful effects when used at the ballot box.

The trouble of us poor whites is that we've been swallowing bunk at the ballot box. We've been trying to get along at the ballot box without our Negro neighbors. And what did we get? 2-5-44

We got Pappy O'Daniel whose medicine burned out our insides. At this writing, we may get Jimmie Davis who can sing the poor man's songs but who wouldn't be the poor man's governor.

We've got to unite, and you've got to help us do it. If we fail or you fail, the road from democracy to fascism is going to be mighty short travelling.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender-Chicago, Ill.

By HAROLD PREECE

Poll Tax Pollcats

1-15-44

WHAT the brilliant labor journalist, Morris Wright, calls the Poll Tax Polecats will soon be smelling up the Senate with a filibuster against H.R. 7—the anti-poll tax bill.

I want to thank Brother Wright for giving a new name to an old breed of skunks. I'm sure he won't be mad if I change his spelling a little bit and call the breed the Poll Tax Pollcats.

I do this out of sheer respect for the four-legged polecat who sometimes grabs a fat hen off your chicken roost. The four-legged polecats used to bother my granddaddy a whole lot when he was sharecropping back in the Trinity River bottoms of East Texas, but they quit coming around when he loaded up a sawed-off shotgun and started banging at them.

I'm a trusting soul as far as most animals are concerned—my poor wife pleads daily with me to get rid of the stray tabby cats that have denned up by our furnace.

I'm even soft-hearted about polecats. I know they aren't altogether harmful to mankind: that they catch far more rats than they do chickens.

But, brothers, I'm not a bit softhearted about the two-legged pollcats. I never heard of them doing mankind any good but I see them daily doing mankind a lot of harm.

Coalition Politics

I EVEN SEE the pollcats cottoning up with rats in what they call a "coalition." I see them—the so-called "Southern Democrats"—teaming up with appeasers and defeatists calling themselves "Northern Republicans" to gnaw away every piece of legislation that would make the load lighter on hard-working folks of every section.

I saw the pollcats take the bread from the mouths of half-naked little sharecropper kids when they whittled down the Farm Security Administration to keep it from turning more cotton patch slaves into self-sustaining farmers growing food—and not cotton—for their country at war.

I saw the pollcats sentence still another generation of kids to the ignorance which finds its only relief in lynching and hatred when they killed the Federal Aid to Education Bill.

I saw the pollcats deny men, fighting for their country, the right to vote in their country.

I saw the pollcats smear the South with blood when they offered up the living bodies of Negroes as burnt offerings to their savage god of the creek bottoms, Old Jim Crow.

And the smell of the roasting flesh was sweet to the nostrils of Cotton Ed Smith, sweet to the nostrils of John Rankin.

Polecats only cut the throats of chickens. But pollcats cut the throat of a nation.

It is the pollcats, glorifying in filth, who feed on juicy scraps thrown them by the northern corporations that own the South—that "covet fields, and take them by violence—so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage." 1-15-44

Let me, a white Southerner, warn our brothers in the rest of America that the battle to pass H.R. 7 over the pollcat filibuster, is not just simply a fight to open the ballot boxes for those ten millions of us who want government to mean more than the constable who drives us into the cotton patch each fall.

The battle for the ballot is also a battle of all the plain folks of America against those same corporations and combinations of evil men that have taken by violence the wheat fields of the farmer in Iowa and the corn fields of the man in Tennessee.

It is the battle against those men who enforce the will of the corporations by the lynch rope in the South and by their votes in Congress up North.

Open Session

NOT ONE working man or small storekeeper in America but has suffered at one time or the other from the will of the corporations expressed through the pollcats heading important committees of our national legislature, passing bills for the benefit of the big man and leaving the little man to rot.

My granddaddy and all the Southern farmers like him always had a remedy against the four-legged polecats—their shotguns.

But my granddaddy's boys and all the other Southerners like them have no money to buy the remedy that would get rid of the two-legged pollcats. 1-15-44

That remedy is the vote. And that remedy costs money in Dixie.

Make your senators put that remedy in our hands. And we'll guarantee to clean out the pollcats.

Once we get rid of the poll tax, it will be open season on pollcats. They'll be no more able to survive that bitter season of the peoples' wrath—and the peoples' vote—than a jackrabbit can keep from drowning in a winter flood.

Cotton Ed Smith will no longer be around to disgrace humanity by praising lynching on the floor of his country's legislature. John Rankin won't be hanging around the capital cracking smutty jokes about the Jewish people who gave us Christ and the Ten Commandments.

Nor will fiddlin', finaglin' Pappy O'Daniel—elected by a few thousand votes because Texas Negroes are kept from the polls—be able to use the Senate as a sounding board for his sanctified fascists who blaspheme the name of Christ by calling themselves "Christian Americans." 1-15-44

It's up to you, brothers and sisters of the free states. It's up to you to see that your senators vote cloture to shut off the filibuster and make H.R. 7 the law of the land.

It's fine weather for hunting pollcats.

'Future South To Be Land Of Prosperity --Arnall

Courier 1-13-44 Page 1

2-19-44

ATLANTA, Ga.—"Throughout my section there is a feeling that mo- mentous things will happen in the post-war South, and that these events will end ancient hates and prejudices and misunderstandings and bring a true unity to our common country."

This statement by Governor Ellis Arnall of Georgia, the South's youngest statesman, appeared in the current issue of "Mademoiselle," national woman's magazine.

ERA OF YOUTH

"In the South, I think, there is greater awareness than anywhere else that the coming years will be the period of youth. Our nation has called on its young women and young men for the ultimate test of their courage, their fortitude and their loyalty. They have met that test in the war; in the days of peace that are to come the South's their enthusiasm will enable them to build with their own hands a country worthy of their vision," Governor Arnall states.

LAND OF PROSPERITY

"The South that will emerge tomorrow will be a land of bustling ports, humming factories, busy farms, stores and offices," he continues. "It will be a land of enterprise and of prosperity. Shaped by and belonging to the young men and women of the South, it will challenge America's youth to its best endeavor, will invite it to work for the fulfillment of its dreams, will offer it opportunity for the expression of its ambition and initiative. Tomorrow's South will be dynamic, vital, young.

"Yet that South will preserve those things that are its peculiar and inalienable heritage; traditions of gentle tolerance, of humorous understanding, of gracious living and profound courtesy in everyday pursuits, of harmony in the pattern of its life, and best of all, I think, of sincere belief in individual liberty," Governal Arnall concludes.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender-
Chicago, Ill.

By HAROLD PREECE

Salute To A Noble Texan 3-4-44

CHARLIE JENKINS is a long way from Texas and so is this Texan in exile.

But Charlie Jenkins, distinguished Negro member of the Illinois legislature, always makes me lonesome for Texas. First time I ever met him, he told me that he was born in Austin, the capital city. I was born there, too.

I like Charlie Jenkins because he's a good representative of the people and because he's a liberal Texan who takes no gaff from the poll taxers.

I felt mighty proud of my home town and my home folks when Charlie Jenkins stood up on the floor of the Illinois legislature in 1939 and fought to give people without jobs beef instead of bones. I was up north that year, working for a Chicago paper and covering the legislative session in Springfield.

I agree with Defender reporter Deton Brooks, who wrote about him on February 19, that "if he were white, with his ability and zest for work, Jenkins would be slated for a big national government post."

I think that Charlie Jenkins would agree with me that almost a quarter of a million colored kids in our home state might be slated for something besides the cotton patch if Texas took the trouble to give them decent educations.

That's a lot of kids for any state, and you find all kinds of talents in any group that big. If Texas poll tax lawmakers didn't value their prize white-faced cattle more than they value despised, black-faced children, those little fellows would sprout legislators, scientists, business men, or any other kind of folks this country might need.

Kids Vs. Cows

BUT IF it comes to cattle or kids, the poll taxers will take the cows and tie the kids to the back end of a plow horse.

I bring all this up for two reasons. First, because this column will be published March 2—that's Texas Independence Day commemorating the birth of the short-lived Texas republic back in 1836. Second, because I've just been reading a revealing report on Negro education in Texas, written by a liberal white man, Gordon Worley, who supervises Negro schools for the state department of education in Austin.

My teachers taught me the Texas declaration of independence before I ever heard about the American declaration written by the white southerner, Tom Jefferson, who fought ignorance and who founded the University of Virginia.

Texas gave as one reason for seceding from Mexico, in her declaration, the failure of the Mexican government to establish any system of education in our state. That was one good reason, among several bad reasons, for Texas setting up her own household.

Texas President Mirabeau Lamar later called education "the guardian genius of democracy" and "the only security which free men desire." That was as safe as endorsing the Ten Commandments so the President turned himself to the more important business of shooting up the friendly Cherokee Indians and chasing them out of the republic.

The Negro members of Local 99 of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers at Jackson, Tenn., said the same thing more sincerely the other day when they made a rule "to know something about everything and everything about something."

Gordon Worley's report shows that Texas is making some commendable progress in Negro education, progress that, of course, should have been measured by the determined, inspiring fight of Texas Negro school teachers to get equal pay with white teachers. If anybody ever makes up an honor roll of southern liberal organizations, the Texas Commission on Democracy in Education and the Texas Colored Teachers association will be high up near the top of the list.

Mr. Worley points out that the Negro scholastic population had decreased from approximately 236,000 to 232,000 during the 10 years from 1933 to 1943—but that "this decline is general for the various population groups." However, the number of Negro teachers has increased more than 18 per cent during the same period.

That's all to the good. It means that each teacher will have fewer little heads to instruct and can, therefore, give more time to each child. It's also a fine compliment to Texas Negro leaders, fighting these many years for the little ones, that high school enrollment has climbed from around 20,000 to around 35,000; that the number of accredited Negro high schools has risen from 44 to 151. 3-4-44

But it's a crying disgrace in this hour when man fights for freedom against fascism, for knowledge against ignorance, that the majority of the South's children—Negro and white—never see the inside of a high school. Here in my adopted state of Tennessee, only 65,000 out of 2,000,000 citizens have even finished the eighth grade.

Gordon Worley is a good man and I wish that we had more officials like him in Texas. But I'm plumb mad because the South's richest state still pays its Negro teachers an average of only $760 pear year as against an average of $1244 for white teachers.

I hope that the good Lord is saving some special stars to be put in special crowns for the devoted colored teachers of Texas.

There is only one state-supported college for Negroes in that whole, big state. But in some fashion known only to idealists, maybe by buying less bread and more books, these teachers have kept improving themselves so that 62 per cent of them now have college degrees as against only 26 per cent back in 1933.

Another Alamo

I'VE HEARD all my life about the battle of the Alamo, and of how 150 Texans held out for days against 4,000 trained troopers. I think that the colored teachers back home are fighting another Alamo, fighting like good Americans against the forces of ignorance and oppression, with scant ammunition being given them by the lily-white legislature at Austin or the lily-white school boards over the state. 3-4-44

Good, hard cash is the best ammunition that you can give educators against ignorance—but Texas doles out a miserly $23 to educate each Negro child while raking up $42 to educate each white child.

"The authorities of some school districts and counties were practically impartial in the provision of opportunities for the education of the children of the two racial groups, while others shamefully discriminated against the Negro children under their administration." So writes that truthful Texan, Gordon Worley, and he adds:

"I suspect a little more attention on the part of our theological schools to the question of preparing prospective ministers for a more intelligent and positive role in the matter of building sentiment for fairer dealing with our minority racial problem would be tremendously helpful to superintendents in the improvement of educational opportunities for the Negro children...."

Amen! Brother Worley.

THIS MORNING

By John Temple Graves II

Citizen-Asheville, N.C.

"The South can adapt itself to the decision. . . ."

4-22-44

What did Governor Chauncey Sparks of Alabama, mean when he said this about Supreme Court's decision that Negroes have a right to vote in Texas' Democratic primary (and presumably in other Southern states)? Did he mean the South could accept the decision in its spirit and intent as well as its letter and permit Negro voting everywhere, including those areas in which the Negro greatly outnumbers the white man and is not qualified in education and responsibility for the function? Of course he didn't. What the Alabama Governor meant was just the opposite. He meant that the South knows more ways to keep the Negro from voting than the United States Supreme Court can ever stop or circumvent. These ways will continue to be employed wherever and whenever the South thinks Negro voting menaces its order or institutions.

GRAVES

* * * *

If only our friends up North could learn this. If only they could understand that, short of another Civil War which they are not willing to wage, they cannot advance the Negro in the South by force, but only by persuading and encouraging Southerners themselves to advance him. If only they could see that the Negro is making real progress and that their interfering does not speed the progress but slows it down. 4-22-44

* * * *

This decision of the nation's highest tribunal will result in much emotion and little voting. It comes at a time when the tension was beginning to be allayed a little between races, when agitators of the black man against the white and of the white man against the black were being made to feel the public's disapproval and were beginning to pipe down. Whatever the mental and moral processes which persuaded the court to contradict its own law and precedents and decide now what it refused unanimously to decide in 1935 the present effect on the South and its people of both races can only be bad. It can lead only to an unproductive play into the hands of the radical Negro leaders in the North and of demagogic exploiters of the race situation like Eugene Talmadge and the man Bilbo.

* * * *

Our Southern duty is to get around this decision in more ways than one. It is to get around the impossible situation that would be created if the intent of the decision were observed. It is, also, to get around the threat of increased tension and multiplied trouble which the emotions aroused will tend to cause. Our duty is to go on in the spirit and philosophy of that extraordinary address made at Tuskegee at its recent Founders' Day exercises last week by President Frank Graham, of the University of North Carolina. Dr. Graham, a man whose democracy is so total it has got him into trouble at times with the conservatives of his state, has been going through mental processes like all true progressives (and unlike those who think progress simply a constant more of the same thing). It must have been as a result in part of those processes that he was able to speak to the fine Negroes at Tuskegee in terms of an advancement based on evolution rather than revolution. 4-22-44

* * * *

He told them that the Negro in this country "has compressed the most progress into the shortest time of any race in human history." It was the truth, and wise leaders of both races are remembering it when there are proposals to change successful evolution into revolution that can never be successful. Dr. Graham recited statistic after statistic in proof of the progress. And he spoke of it as having been and still being achieved "gradually," in other words in the slow but sure way of something the Southern people are willing to accept and encourage, not in the impossible way of something attempted suddenly to be imposed from outside.

Southern Education

Post-Washington, D.C. 4-23-44

It is a fact beyond reasonable contention that the Southern States lag behind the rest of the Union in both the quantity and the quality of education available to their young residents. If all the States are ranked in order of the percentage of population 25 years of age and over who have completed at least one year of high school, it will be found that the 10 at the tail end of the list are all States below the Mason-Dixon line. In every one of these 10 States fewer than one-third of the adult population have had even this modicum of formal schooling. In nearly all the States of the South, a majority of the public school teachers are paid less than $1200 a year. In Mississippi, for example, to cite the worst offender, 91 per cent of the teachers receive less than $1200 annually; 50 per cent receive less than $600. Three-fourths of the teachers in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, South Carolina and Tennessee fall below the $1200 level.

We present these figures, not with any intent to disparage the South, but in order to point out the special need for Federal aid to education in the Southern States. The failure of these States to promote education more vigorously is due in large part to their economic difficulties. And it is no unreasonable assumption that the economic difficulties may be ascribed in considerable measure to inadequate education. In correcting the situation these States certainly are entitled to the help of the Federal Government in which they share. The interest of the Federal Government is manifest: democracy can prosper only through an educated citizenry.

One Southern legislator—Senator Lister Hill of Alabama—has assumed outstanding leadership in the effort to promote Federal aid to education in the States. He made this a part of his platform when he first ran for Congress in 1926. He has carried out his pledge by co-sponsoring with Senator Thomas of Utah a Federal aid bill carefully designed to preserve local autonomy in education. The bill was meanly done to death in the Senate last summer by a piece of legislative sabotage which injected into its consideration the wholly irrelevant issue of racial segregation. The mores of the South would be in no way affected by this bill. The control of the separate States over the character and the content of their educational systems would remain supreme. Senator Hill's proposal would do no more than to make Federal funds available to them principally for the purpose of increasing teachers' salaries. 4-23-44

It is ironic—and in our view tragic—that Senator Hill should now be threatened with defeat in his campaign for reelection on account of a measure which would be of genuine benefit to his own State and to the Nation as a whole. The stature of this man has grown with his service in Congress. His progressive influence has been extended into foreign, as well as domestic, affairs, with his share in advocating the B2H2 resolution—a notable step forward in our foreign policy. As David L. Cohn observed of him in an article in the current issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, "he has never formulated a political credo, and it would be difficult to fit him into any political category other than that of Democrat and democrat. On the evidence of his actions, however, he would seem to be a liberal in the best sense of that much-abused word."

4-23-44

THE PULSE OF THE PUBLIC

(The Constitution welcomes letters from its readers. They must be signed, should not exceed 200 words.)

Constitution-Atlanta, Ga.

Friendly to South

Editor, Constitution: As a native-born southerner, I am constantly chagrined by the unsympathetic handling which Dixie gets in northern newspapers. It was refreshing then to come across the inclosed editorial in yesterday's New York Post. Won't you please reprint it so that southerners may know that at least one Yankee newspaper understands their problems? 5-3-44

U. N. FREEMAN.

Brooklyn.

The editorial:

THE SOUTH

After reading some southern politicians' comment on the supreme court decision that gives Negroes the ballot in Texas, it would be easy to picture the entire south as the abode of crazy-eyed lynchers and moronic snuff-dippers with no decent instincts or human sensibilities.

It would be easy to do that—and harmful, too. Nor would it be fair. Having kicked the south around economically for the last eighty years, it ill behooves us, while holding it down in the gutter with one hand to use the other to point the finger of scorn.

The south never had a chance in American life. Its economic relationship to the rest of the nation was always cockeyed. And from there it is only a step to cockeyed race relationships. Remember that in 1937 the average per capita income in the United States was $604. But in the south it was $314 and Negroes got even less.

The south has become our India. We extract tons of raw materials from its rich forests, we erode its land for its cotton and tobacco. Up to ten years ago we maintained a high tariff policy that cut the south off from markets for its agricultural products while at the same time it forced the south to buy northern manufactures at plus-tariff prices.

Remember that even the south's war-boom prosperity is a sickly growth. Almost all the large war plants are northern-owned branch factories.

How stable a society can you erect on such foundations? The south is a frustrated land, and the Negro is its whipping boy.

What is to be done? The first step is to encourage and work with the powerful individuals and groups in the south who are genuinely trying to help their section.

For every Rankin and Bilbo there is a Ralph McGill, a Virginius Dabney, a Herbert Agar, a Frank Porter Graham, a John Temple Graves, a Jonathan Daniels, a Mark Ethridge, a Thomas J. Hamilton, a Howard W. Odum. These men are not just a small collection of do-gooders. All but one is a newspaper editor, publisher or writer and their influence reaches into many homes.

Another is the president of the south's greatest university—that of North Carolina. The University of Texas is becoming another focal point for southern liberal ideas.

These men have not been content to speak through their columns alone or to stick to their college classes. They have organized interracial conferences, at Durham and at Atlanta, and have begun the delicate task of placing on a sound basis the work of interracial amity.

We don't agree with all of them or with all that they do. But they are as opposed to the Rankin-Bilbo south as any of us.

We must, however, remember that words about tolerance and races getting together are of no value when the society in which they are spoken is sick and undernourished.

The south must get a fair economic break. More industry must be brought in. Since 1935, nearly a million white southerners have joined in the same trade unions with Negroes. That is great progress. 5-3-44

The south needs more TVA's. The TVA has brought new industries and raised the income of the Tennessee Valley by 75 per cent since 1933. This must be duplicated. Freight differentials must be abolished and the interest rate on capital lowered to northern levels.

We hail the supreme court's decision to give Negroes the vote. There must be further liberalization of election law, including an end to the vile poll taxes. We abhor and detest the Rankins and Bilbos and Talmadges.

But we also note that Talmadge was badly licked in his state in 1942; that the south is producing novels like "Strange Fruit" and authors like Lillian Smith; that its universities are beginning a renaissance of learning; that you will find in some of its newspapers some of the best expressions of American liberalism; that in the southland there is a genuine capacity for self-criticism and a genuine understanding of the need for change.

The change is terribly slow. We simply ask that while it goes on the south be treated as a friend who has a terrible problem and who needs help, rather than as a nasty outcast.

THE LIVING SOUTH

1-8-44

Defender-Chicago, Ill.

New Year Decision

MY WIFE reminds me that I forgot to wish my Defender readers a Merry Christmas during the recent holidays.

I apologize. I was thinking deeply and proudly of you when I sat down to Christmas dinner with some of our mountain neighbors — neighbors who think that we should have peace and good will between white Southerners and colored Southerners every day in the year.

It's only that I was drooping like a hound that's lost a rabbit trail in the month before Christmas.

We were all packed up and ready to move to a new community when our baby took sick and had to be carried to the hospital. He's all right now but I was so busy making a rambling old house comfortable for him that Christmas naturally slipped up on me. I even had to send my Christmas cards air mail so that folks would get them on time.

But it isn't too late to wish all of you a Happy New Year that comes from the bottom of our hearts. This New Year is rich with faith and hope for us because we were privileged to fight beside you for democracy, for justice, for equality of man and man, during that year of 1943 which made us proud of yesterday and eager for tomorrow.

Yesterday merges with today to bring tomorrow. Nat Turner is one with General Tito; the path beaten out by tortured colored and white rebels of all countries is the path made clearer for mankind at the Moscow, Teheran and Cairo conferences of 1943.

The old year — not dead because it gave new hope to the living — saw the common people of Dixie deal heavy blows to speed the end of the South that is dying.

A New South

THE NEW YEAR heralds the New South. During 1944, we are going to see the forces of life in the South become stronger and more able to face that coming last battle against the forces of death. We are going to see multiplied the incidents of cooperation and mutual understanding between the races that became so noticeable during 1943. We will see the greatest progress made in those sections where the CIO unions have organized together the working people of both races.

We are going to see that fine new organization, the Southern Regional Council, founded at Atlanta, last summer, thrive and extend its influence over both races because its leaders are high-minded Negro and high-minded white citizens. 1-8-44

We're going to see decent people of all classes and both colors act drastically to remove the causes of such dangerous eruptions as the fifth column uprisings staged by agents of Hitler in Beaumont, Mobile and Detroit.

For these are great years—years that tap the greatness in men's souls, causing them to make great decisions.

Thousands of Southerners are not making resolutions for the New Year. They've made New Year decisions.

One particular decision they've made is to clear the South's good name by ridding the country of Hitler's chief deputy in Washington — Martin Dies from the Beaumont district of Texas.

We've made that decision because Martin Dies has never represented the people of the South up there in Washington. He represents the Beaumont hoodlums who stirred up the trouble last year, who are lined up with other such elements all over the country to defeat President Roosevelt in the 1944 elections and to set up an American fascist regime which would return our Negro fellow-citizens to the position that they were in before Abe Lincoln freed them in 1863. This is the era of Sevastopol and not the era of Munich. Our decision will be easier to carry out because Martin is in the position of a pampered, expensive dog that's been caught sucking eggs in the

Dies vs. The Negro

WE MAY NOT have much edu-
cation down here, but nobody
found with the egg in his mouth,
when he howls nowadays about
"subversive communist" doings.
Mr. Churchill both sit down with
accused us of not having good sense

as been drawing from the treasury to finance his Gestapo "committee."

Martin will be yelping for more funds just about the time this piece is published. He wants to "investigate" the federal civil service commission because it has adopted some new rules which prevent its representatives from asking any job seeker a question involving race, color, or religion; or whether he approves of social relationships with Negroes.

When President Roosevelt snapped his fingers in Martin's face by sitting down with Mr. Stalin, the weak commission finally yielded to pressure of the United Federal Workers, CIO, and other progressive organizations. It eased up on its customary damfool questions and conceded that a man might be a loyal American even if he read labor papers and went to parties with Negroes. 1-8-44

Martin is prepared to howl "white supremacy" if he gets more good United States money for his "investigation." That "investigation" would be the signal for new fascist insurrections called "race riots." It would surely stir up bitterness throughout the country, would surely mess up war production, would surely harm the Negro, would surely help Hitler.

Well, brothers, we're using our pencils as shovels for the burying of that political goon who represents the mobsters of Beaumont. We're writing our congressmen say that we'll bury them in the 1944 elections if they vote to give Martin one more copper penny.

That's also a good way for our friends in the North to start the New Year off right!

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender-Chicago, Ill. 1-1-44

By HAROLD PREECE

Dillard King vs. Rankin

IT'S AS natural for John Rankin, who hates Negroes, Jews, and "communists," to defend the corrupt southern railroad corporations against the FEPC as it is for a crawfish to bite a piece of red flannel stuck on a bent pin.

Crawfish—and sharks like John Rankin—seem to thrive on red bait. It's natural for them to smear everything progressive in America with their rotten red herring.

But it was just as natural for Charlie Bruce, the white engineer from Macon, Ga., to get up at the FEPC hearings last September and testify that the Central of Georgia railroad hired only white men to steer its trains. You will remember my writing about Charlie, of how he had been "busted" from his seniority because he refused to take promotion over a Negro railroad man who had worked on the line longer.

Charlie said at that hearing that plenty of other white workers "would be here but they don't want to stick out their necks." I predicted then that the time was coming mighty soon when other white people would "stick out their necks" not only for the right of Negroes to run locomotives but also for the right of Negroes to run typewriters and other machines developed by modern science.

Brothers, I'm happy to report that the penetrating spirit of Charlie Bruce has hit pay dirt right in my neighborhood. The white people of this Tennessee mountain community are terribly riled about the way in which the southern railroads and their crawfish congressmen are defying the FEPC in this matter of hiring Negroes on equal terms with other Americans to man the nation's railroads.

We are as hot as a sinner at a camp meeting about the sneaky way in which the Atlanta City Council has called for the moving of the FEPC regional office from that city. And on such grounds—that Negroes and whites would be working together in the same office building where they would be washing their hands in the same basins.

We'd like to give John Rankin and the "city fathers" of the Ku Klux capital a good scrubbing with Ivy Lee Eldridge's home-made lye soap. Since we can't pen 'em up like we'd do a mess of possums, we're doing the next best thing by letting Atlanta know that we don't like the dirty work that's being done there.

Ivy Lee Eldridge, Dillard King, and the rest of us mountaineers in this little community have been writing letters to Atlanta demanding that the FEPC stay there and asking that no discrimination be made between people with blue neckties or gray neckties, with white skins or black skins.

Letter To The Editor

I WANT YOU to read the letter that Dillard King, grandson of a Confederate soldier and father of five kids himself, wrote to the Atlanta World, the country's only Negro daily paper. 1-1-44

The letter is as follows:

"It is with deepest regret that I have read in our local papers that the city council of Atlanta has been trying to force the closing of the FEPC office. The sole reason given is that colored and white people would work in the same building.

"As a southern white man, I think this is the most damnable thing that could happen. It could happen when millions of our country's sons—single and married, colored and white—are all facing Hitler's forces in Europe.

"We on the home front must fight a thing like this to the finish. The boys in Italy and elsewhere are pushing forward when we at home are losing ground to native fascist elements.

"It seems that we, the people here at home and particularly in the South, have a double job to do. We must fight these wolves who strut about in sheep's clothing, in the guise of noble patriotism."

(This next paragraph is rich. A Langston Hughes or a Roi Ottley couldn't have done it any better.)

"We, the people of the South, know what type of individuals such groups as the city council of Atlanta, Ga., are made up of. Never have we read in the papers and heard over the radio that any of the southern Hitlers have said one word against these same colored people working in literally thousands of office buildings in the South, so long as these colored folks were patiently mopping floors, emptying wastebaskets, or operating the elevators. What is the differences in working in an office with a colored person whether he (the Negro) be mopping the floor or working at a desk."

(Then Dillard hits the crux of the whole matter.) 1-1-44

"I for one believe that President Roosevelt was absolutely right when he said: 'This is a total war; we are all in it all of the way.' We must all work together regardless of creed, color, and belief.

"We must crush the fascist groups at home as our soldiers with the help of our great allies, Soviet Russia, Britain, and China, are doing on the battlefronts of the world.

"A colored man's bullet does not stop in mid-air because a colored man pulled the trigger. A colored man's bullet can kill a Japanese or a Nazi the same as a white man's."

What Negroes Can Do

I DON'T WANT to editorialize on this letter which speaks for the sender as well as for the whole awakening South. In some future day, historians of a free South will delve into old archives and dig out letters like this as records of the greatest, most enduring struggle for the equality of all men ever waged in this country.

I just want to say that Dillard and his wife, Rebecca, practice what they preach. Dillard talks naturally with Negroes as he talks with me. Rebecca King is teaching her children, as Ivy Lee Eldridge has taught hers, that no man was born better than any other man, that we must all live and work together.

Thousands of poor whites are teaching their children the same thing as southerners of both colors straighten up their bent backs and move forward to keep a date with history. Which brings me to something that Negroes can do to bring nearer the day of complete emancipation.

Isn't it about time that Negro newspapers stopped using such terms as "cracker," "crackerocracy," and "hillbilly" to describe southern poor white folks? 1-1-44

Those names were pinned on us by the same white slave herders who pinned just as bad names on you. If we have to call each other by names, let it be by the fraternal names of "Brother" and "Sister."

We are your friends. We will round the dangerous curves with you and then we'll march with you down the big high road that leads to freedom for both of us. Let us walk and talk together.

SOUTHERN SAY-SO

Courier—Pitts burg, Pa. 1-8-44

Racial Policy Prevents Southern Minds Reaching Zenith of Greatness

By M. S. STUART

AS OF January first, this writer wrote a plea to the political leaders of the South to take the lead in a movement to abolish racial discrimination and to discourage prejudice. Of course, it would be foolishly sanguine to expect the more rabid exponents of bias to give early ear to that plea; and well might you ask, why make it? Well, the temptation to believe in truth and righteousness and to base hope upon them is still strong. Besides, you can never tell when, in the printed word, they may strike a popular cord so irresistible that even the most bigoted will have to join in the chorus.

Mr. Stuart

This piece is complementary to that of January first in that it will try to show that from the point of view of white interests, the present racial policy is not even smart selfishnes; that to Southern white people, especially to the younger, current and future generations, the cost of maintaining racial discrimination will grow increasingly heavy and lead eventually to bankruptcy of the most precious of human values.

It is not the foolishly unnecessary financial cost of dual public facilities in mind here now. There is yet being incurred a far more dangerous cost. It is not directly financial. But from the standpoint of Southern character and progress, the impairment which it will cause will prove far more difficult to overcome, because it cripples the heart of the ONLY machine by which preparation can be effected. It impairs the minds of the youth in each succeeding generation.

ERROR IN THE MIND COSTLY

All mental impairment is not insanity; but minds impaired by prejudice cannot function perfectly, nor rise to heights of true greatness. In machines made of inert matter, there must be perfection in material and exactness in the adjustments of parts to assure perfect functioning. Such a machine must be constructed upon scientifically established truths and proven formulas. The least error grows progressively impairing.

THE same holds good for the human mind. To make this clear, suppose all the children of the South were born with a tiny but creeping paralysis in just one finger.

In time the entire manhood and womanhood of the section would be impaired. That would be equally true if the malady should arise from any cause after birth. You can see that very clearly in relation to the physical; but it is no less true in reference to the brain

There is much to sustain this opinion that the aggregate brain power of the South, the white South there are four natural sons had training before the and one adopted son. The adoption. Hence, they are than white population in other sections had before following the Negro cost of the nation. But it is in their brains; and it is in their smartness to shift onto the shoulders of their foster brothers of the heavier, dirtier work; all of the registering world-renowned pinnacles of greatness; but they were held down to national mediocrity by a handicapping over-shadowing racial policy under which true greatness will not thrive.

COST IN TRUE GREATNESS

IN the past century and a half the South has produced minds capable of Here is a list of North Americans, reared and educated outside the South, who achieved world-wide speciousness recognition by their contributions: They become in the same period: Burbank, Bell and thin-ice lDarrow, Edison, Ford, Fulton, Fos a part of the enter, Holmes (Sr. and Jr.), Lincoln and they rea Longfellow, Lowell, Morse, Roose them superio velts (Teddy, Eleanor, Franklin) proceed to den Stowe, Webster, Whittier, Whitney vileges to the the Wrights. Against this list d they becom what have you to offer in Southern essed with th white skins? Only Washington and ting. So whe Jefferson. There you have an ider y the game of what the South has let the pres y lose, because of the Negro cost it in the their time lookmatter of true greatness.

THE SOUTH FAMILY

From the South

PM-New York, N.Y. 8-24-44

Dear Editor:

I want the readers of PM to know that the Southern Senators who defend the poll-tax fight to keep the Negroes from voting, and oppose a fourth term for President Roosevelt, do not voice the opinions of a majority of the Southern people.

I hang my head in shame that such men represent our land.

EDITH ROGERS

Creedmoor, N. C.

6a-1944

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender-Chicago 1/1

By HAROLD PREECE

Prophet From Lula

DON WEST brought us a load of New Year's cheer when he paid us a recent holiday visit.

He brought along a thirty pound leg of ham, too; and it wasn't wrapped in blue and white Armour paper. Don slops his own hogs to make good home-cured ham, just like his old grandaddy, Kim Mulkey, did back in the hills of North Georgia.

Like a proud father, Don bragged about Gracie, his least one, just five years old, but already milking the cow with both hands. Looks like that two-century old tradition of knowing how to use your hands will go right along in the West-Mulkey clan—along with another tradition of fighting for the rights of the Southern people. 1-22-44

Old Kim, a Georgia volunteer in the Union army, fought the slavocracy in his state as my grandad fought it in the hills of Texas. There are thousands of Southern white people who brag about the guerrilla campaign that their folks carried on against "the Secesh" and the race hatred born of slavery.

Today, Don West is fighting in the people's battle against fascism—and against the race hatred which is the main artillery of fascism on the Southern front.

The people of Georgia are mighty proud of Don West, now serving as superintendent of schools in the foothill village of Lula. He speaks regularly for the Georgia people over the radio; he sings their songs in his book of poems, "Toil and Hunger."

When Jim West's boy grew up, he went off to get a good education. Then he came right back to his people. That's unlike a lot of educated Southerners, scattered over the country, who will do anything for the South but live in it.

Swapping Stories

IT WAS GOOD to sit up all night swapping stories with Don and with another guest, Waldemar Hille. Hille is the young composer who did such a fine job organizing the music department of that outstanding peoples' university, the Abraham Lincoln school in Chicago. He's spending this year in the South to learn our songs and to make records of them on his recording machine.

Don read, for recording, several of his poems. His deep voice carried the warmth and fervor that belongs to those songs written for the millhands and the sharecroppers.

He made a record of one poem called "Southern Nights" which, I think has some of the finest lines ever written by any poet in Dixie. Speaking of the South, Don has written:

"Poets have sung of her beauty
And I sing.
But I say Southern nights
And Southern ways
Are deceptive—
Some are liars!
I speak hard words
Because soft words
Hide a cruel South,
A cold hearted South
With flesh in her teeth
And blood on her mouth.
Slow Southern rivers
Murmur gently over bones
Of dead Negroes.
The river covers many a lie
And so does the soft, drawling voice
Of the ruling South."

This is Don't judgment--and also the judgment of history—on the planters' South with its devil's sacrament of human flesh and human blood. But the next poem that he recorded shows his love for the awakening peoples' South of freedom and cooperation.

Smoldering South 1-22-44

DON MUST HAVE been thinking of his father, Jim West, who died young from pellagra when he spoke hese lines into the microphone:

"The slow groaning anger
Of the South—
Born of toil and hunger,
Tearing at a million hearts,
Taken in with bulldog gravy
Or pinto beans,
Sucked up with coal dust or lint
Into the belly of the South,
The great gaunt belly
Of a smoldering South!
No anger is in a dead man—
But it's in the South,
Slow, groaning anger
In the toiling South!"

When the records were played to us, we thought what fine sermons for our Southern churches! What excellent material for the cultural programs of our Southern labor unions!

Some day, our peoples' organizations down here must find places in their activities for the poets, singers, and story tellers of the people—for peoples' artists like Don West and the Missouri sharecropper poet, H. H. Lewis, whose poem about an Arkansas landlord, "Lee Wilkins," im immortal. 1-22-44

Don West is the president of a peoples' organization—the Farmers Union local of his community and also president of the Lula Chamber of Commerce. In some manner he finds time to edit a people's paper, supervise a nursery school conducted by the high school girls, and talk lots with his neighbors who want more and better education for their children.

These neighbors—white Southerners—were responsible for getting the district's Negro school extended for a seven-months to a nine-months session.

Some of Don's pupils have taken to writing poetry since their school came to be headed by a man who threw all the hickory switches out of the window.

Last year, two girls of the senior class—Millie Jo Martin and Wilma Morris—wrote a graduation poem that lived up to the school motto of "scrapping to wipe oll traces of fascism from the earth."

Said Don's two pupils:

"We fight for freedom for the Jew,
The Negro, Chinese, Russians, too. 1-22-44
The Senior Class of '43
Goes on to fight for Victory."

These youngsters and their kinfolks have got a mighty good man to help lead that fight for victory.

THE LIVING SOUTH

By HAROLD PREECE

Special From Private Roberts

NOT LONG AGO, I had a nice chat with a Birmingham man who reads this column regularly. "What spark keeps you going week after week," he asked me over coffee in his home. "Looks like you'd be pounding your head for new ideas every week."

Well, my friends, you are the sparks. You are the people who have never let the light go out even in the darkest days of Dixie. You never let me down, either for the inspiration or the material that makes my typewriter smoke when it warms up from the heat of the Southern battle.

Last week, the spark was Private John Roberts. I'm calling him that because I don't want to risk telling the real name of a Negro soldier training down in Mississippi.

Private Roberts sent me a one-page handwritten letter which is one of the best statements of what this war is all about that I have seen since Pearl Harbor. The letter was sent special delivery to the Defender office in Chicago and forwarded from there to my home in Tennessee.

I've read that letter several times and I've been showing it to other Southerners who think that it's time for the South to sober up and stop swigging this moonshine of "race." Private Roberts was writing to all of us even if the letter was addressed to me, and I want all of us to know what this fighter for his country had to say.

He started off by saying that he liked a recent column of mine entitled "Dillard King vs. Rankin." He agreed with me that Southerners of different races had to stop calling each other by the bad names which the John Rankins pinned on both of us.

"Let us highly resolve," wrote Private Roberts, "that we shall stop casting about our fellowmen's names as evil."

"I am sure you agree that unless we, the people of the South, cultivate more sympathetic interest in each other's welfare, present sacrifices are in vain."

Yes. Private Roberts, I agree. So many good people think that whipping Hitler is all that we have to do in this war.

Equality Of Folks

BUT WE HAVE both to whip Hitler and wipe out the things he stands for—just as we have to whip John Rankin and wipe out the things he stands for.

This question has a lot of angles which we are just beginning to figure out in this, the fifth year of the war. I wish that I could hop a bus down to Mississippi to talk these angles over with this young man who is offering his life for my wife and baby who are white.

But I can't leave my wife and baby alone on this mountain top in winter time. So I'll just have to write out what I'd say to Private Roberts and to the rest of my Negro fellow-citizens drafted to fight for all peoples of all colors.

First of all, I'd like to tell Private Roberts how I feel about the way that Negro soldiers like him are being treated in Mississippi. It isn't easy for any human being to accept the indignities of Mississippi, the only state in the union which still has not ratified the Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery.

If white men can die on the same battlefield with Negroes, they can eat at the same table with Negroes. I believe in the equality of forks as well as the equality of guns.

But I'd like to tell Private Roberts also that this war is worth fighting.

It's worth fighting because time is opening up a new account for the plain people battling all over the world but closing up the books for the John Rankins in whatever country they rule and ruin.

Private Roberts heard time marching by his cot when he wrote me that letter, and time was sounding no retreat for the people. For time has also another name—change—the name by which Private Roberts called it.

"Of course, we can do these things," said Private Roberts with the proud confidence of the earth's awakening peoples. "There is nothing permanent in this world but change. The longer and the stronger we resist that change, the more disastrous human relations will become."

Look To The People

I WOULD TELL Private Roberts that those Southerners who resist change are as silly as some overgrown kid the knee breeches resisting long pants. I would tell him that the peoples of Europe have been changing breeches pretty fast since Hitler sent in his death buggies of the gas chambers and the spitting tanks.

Serbs and Croatians, who yesterday hated each other, are fighting side by side in the liberation armies of General Tito. Frenchmen and Italians, enemies at the outset of the war, fought in the same ranks to take Corsica from the Axis.

The need of freedom is bringing together men of all nations. And there are signs that this increasing union of the peoples is having its effect upon the world's great capitals.

There are men in Washington and London who hoped that they could still whip Hitler without stirring up the suffering peoples of Europe. They hoped to string along with reactionary "governments-in-exile," to keep on kidding the folks who hadn't run away when the bombs started dropping.

But to whip Hitler, they finally had to face about and look toward the common people who could be trusted. Out of sheer necessity, they had to begin supporting Tito instead of the quisling, Mikhailovitch in Yugoslavia, the French National Committee of Liberation instead of "reformed" fascists in North Africa.

It's hard to see now, but the same thing is going to happen here in Dixie. America is going to have to turn away from the poll tax rulers of the South—those who sprinkled ground glass on the President's war program—and look toward your people and mine if our country is going to keep the solemn pledge for mankind which it made at the Moscow-Cairo-Teheran conferences.

That's the reason we ought to recognize the yelps of the Rankins for what they are—yelps of des-

The Negro got by handsomely because of his resourcefulness in not divulging that he was totally ignorant of the names of the many stations. He got by. The point here is that Negroes everywhere want the same thing in this country.

The attempt to prove that northern Negroes want more than southern Negroes lacks pith and point. As a matter of fact most of the Negroes in the north who are most clamorous for full citizenship are Negroes from the south. Still there seems to be some misgivings about the ambitions and aspirations of the southern Negroes. When the Negroes met in Durham in 1942 there was great fear that they might not make a straightforward statement. Many northern Negroes feared this and many southern Negroes; but withal the statement provoked just the reaction that was desired. It stirred the white south to action. 2-12-44

While we are just beginning to function, some things have already transpired that showed the wisdom of the Durham group. It succeeded in getting segregation attacked by a white southerner which has provoked much favorable reaction throughout the nation. It succeeded in eliciting from Gov. Darden of Virginia one of the most far-reaching programs ever mentioned by a southern state, and when the train was called to be launched by a southern state, was one of the signers of the statement which was a real attempt to inaugurate the Durham manifesto. In spite of the heroic efforts being made, the regrate the Negro into the social and economic life of the state. Gov. Darden himself had the sta- was wont to do- that they could not be found. A worker about the yards was called to dress and make ready for the trip. This he did with all enthusiasm; and the train had pulled out and

HANCOCK

BETWEEN THE LINES

Philadelphia Tribune—Pa.

By DEAN GORDON

The story goes that a train waspicture, making up for a trip through the

The Southern Negro

when the southern Negroes launch a movement to relieve the immediate pressures peculiar to the south.

It takes litigation and cooperation to attain unto the objectives which the Negro is seeking. Strangely enough we have the NAACP, a fighting organization, and the National Urban league, a cooperating organization, functioning from New York through the whole country. Nobody ever says they are breaking the "solid front" of Negroes. We have in New York City four or five well-defined organizations and movements looking forward to interracial alleviation. The Powell group, the Randolph group, the Yergan group, the NAACP and other groups. Nobody contends that they are breaking the Negro's "solid front." It is clear that much of their activity is duplicatory, but all are doing their bit. 2-12-44

In Richmond we have two groups today doing what the NAACP did yesterday. It is not claimed they are breaking the Negro's solid front. The soldiers of this country are scattered everwhere fighting this way and that, but nobody feels that they are breaking the nation's solid front because they all are not at one place and are not engaged in the same activities. There are 48 states in the Union but this is no proof that our national front is not solid. Why would it then be supposed that by rolling up his sleeves to do a little fighting himself the southern Negro must be suspected of breaking the "solid front" of Negroes when he is working for the same thing? Is this just another way of saying that the southern Negro lacks manhood?

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender-Chicago, Ill.
2-12-44

By HAROLD PREECE

Two Southerners Talk

I DROPPED into a CIO hall the other day and heard a Negro southerner talk far into the night with a white southerner about the way they were increasing production to win this war.

I sat and listened and thought. I thought of still another war for liberation that was fought back in my granddaddy's time—the Civil War which caused a Negro southerner and a white southerner to sit up, night after night, talking about what they were doing to win it.

The Negro southerner was Frederick Douglass and the white southerner was Abraham Lincoln. We are celebrating both of their birthdays this month. We are celebrating the part of them that never died by organizing unions where the kinsmen of Fred Douglass and the kinsmen of Abe Lincoln can meet and talk over ways to win this war and that complete democracy which was the dream of the South's two greatest sons.

It is a deep evidence of our awakening democracy that the trade union hall is one place where southerners of both colors can sit down and talk together.

Let pessimistic liberals like Georgia's David Cohn write in swank, pessimistic magazines like the Atlantic Monthly that white is white and black is black in the South; that "never the twain shall meet."

The people know better. May the great heart of the people pity writers who only read history and never see it.

Today, black and white in the South are mobilizing under the banner of the union: an organization with many local branches seeking the guarantees of bread and work and freedom for all men of all races.

Yesterday, black and white in the South also fought under the banner of the Union. It was our Union called by Lincoln's friend, Walt Whitman, "these states"—seeking through the agony of the Civil War to establish those basic principles which would permit us who came after to organize for bread, work, and freedom.

Whatever the fuzzy-duzzy speeches applauded by fuzzy-duzzy societies like the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the South of the planters can only be ashamed of its part in that war or this war.

But the South of the people—the South of Lincoln and Douglass—can tell its children to the furtherest generations that it did not fail mankind in either that war or this war.

I say this because we are likely to forget on the birthdays of these two that Lincoln's hatred of slavery was a southern inheritance.

A People's War

ABE LINCOLN was born in the South: in the backwoods of Kentucky. His kinsmen, the mountain poor whites, live there to this day, still hating slavery in any form, ready at this minute to fight anybody who calls them "Secesh," meaning secessionists.

He was typical of those southerners pushed by the tens of thousands out of the Piedmont, the Shenandoah, the Tidewater, and the other fertile sections of the South, pushed out by the slaveowners who regarded the life of a mule more than the life of a man. 2-12-44

These southerners—the Lincolns, the Taliferros, the Hatfields, the Martins, and thousands of other families including my own—had no place to go except the rough hills and the rocky ridges. "Some day we'll meet you again and fight this thing out"—so they gave their word to the slave masters and that word haunts the big landlords of the South to this day.

Later on, many of these families crossed the Mississippi to claim new land offered by the government, to plant new farms and to build new states. Some of them went into Texas and Arkansas; some of them, like the family of Abe Lincoln, went into Illinois and Indiana.

But whether they moved to the inviting, unbroken prairies or stayed in the stubborn, infertile hills, they carried in their hearts that undying hatred of slavery which was to help loose the chains from the black man and from themselves.

It is wrong to speak of the Civil War as a war between North and South except in the sense that the forces of life were centered in the North and the forces of death were centered in the South.

For the Civil War was a people's war like this one that we are fighting. Those who fought on the side of life could not have won the Civil War without the help of the southern people: the black kinsmen of Fred Douglass and the white kinsmen of Abe Lincoln.

Poor White Role

WHILE the Negro slaves were staging strikes on the plantations and acting as patriotic informers for the Union army, the poor whites were also knocking down the walls of slavery.

They were resisting conscription into the Confederate army—pro-Confederate historians like Ella Lonn now admit that the slaveowners could have held out for at least two years longer had it not been for the mass desertions from their unruly brigades. 2-12-44

They were organizing partisan guerilla companies to "bushwhack" the Confederates from the rear. My granddaddy belonged to one such detachment called the Texas Mountain Eagles and it afterwards became the First Texas Cavalry of the Union army.

They were ganging up at the polls to elect Union men to the Confederate state legislature and to the Confederate congress at Richmond. They seized whole areas of the South from the Confederacy and raised over them the old flag of the Union—that's how the state of West Virginia was born. 2-12-44

You don't get this fact in the Confederate histories taught in the southern schools but you do get it in old archives: that the majority of the poor whites had about as much love for the Confederacy as a bulldog has for a rattlesnake.

They saw then that Jeff Davis and slavery had to be smashed as they see today that Adolph Hitler and Nazism have to be smashed.

Sure, they were confused about a lot of things then as they are today. But they had the good sense to see that their lives and freedom depended upon their working with the Negro to win that war.

That white man and that Negro were showing the same good sense when they were talking together about winning this war, in the CIO hall. Whenever you see that happen, you are seeing Lincoln and Douglass together again. You are seeing them carrying on in 1944 the talks that they left off back there in 1865.

250,000th Inductee

HOW I WISHED that there might have been a joint ceremony in Memphis honoring Mother Jones and Louis Westerman Jr., a poor white boy who was inducted as the 250,000th Tennessee soldier at about the time of the Memphis celebration. Governor Cooper, himself, picked out young Westerman from a line of inductees and the papers had much to say about this white boy from Stewart county, who quit digging mussle shells to fight for the same thing which caused the Jones boys to put on khaki.

The heart of Mother Jones would have gone out to this poor white boy and his mother had they been seated there on the stage at Convention Hall. So would the hearts of two Memphis Negro women who served the queen as attendants: Mrs. A. J. Johnson, mother of six sons, and Mrs. A. B. Hendrix, mother of four.

Somebody has said that all women are sisters under the skin. If Mother Jones ever talks with Westerman, these two southern queens are going to find that sons of Negro war mothers and white war mothers in the service make sisters out of them.

Life is rubbing out the old race lines: rubbing them out in the blood of all races shed in this war. Life is also rubbing out the old style kings will keep on rising up from the cotton patch and wash tub to claim the birthright of the people.

THE LIVING SOUTH

Defender, Chicago, Ill.
2-19-44

By HAROLD PREECE

Queen Olivia Jones

AS FAR BACK as I can remember, I've gone to southern political rallies just like I've gone to southern county fairs and southern Sunday school picnics.

As far back as I can remember, southern politicians, speaking at the rallies, have always angled for votes by calling all southern white women "queens."

Now, my mother is a hard-working, hard-headed woman who thought that raising and schooling four young-uns was a better job than most any queen could do. I heard her tell a politician once that she had never been queen of anything except the cotton patch and the wash tub.

But I'm glad to say that the South is beginning to look to the cotton patch and the wash tub for its queens. We are crowning the real queens at the same time that we are getting ready to uncrown Old King Crump and Old King Bilbo.

One of these queens came into her own in Old King Crump's city of Memphis, a few weeks ago. She is a Negro woman, Mrs. Olivia Jones, mother of 20 children, who was crowned as America's "Champion War Mother" at a rally opening the Fourth War Loan Drive, held in the city's Convention Hall.

Seventeen of Mrs. Jones' children are still living. Nine of her boys are in the army while a tenth son has been deferred by the Madison County, Tenn., draft board to help his parents grow food for the nation on the family's little farm in the crossroads community of Danceyville.

Like the real queens who are found in all the crossroads communities of the people, Mrs. Jones didn't seek either the crown or all the publicity that she's gotten in the newspapers. The Treasury Department in Washington picked her out after a four months' search, conducted through the papers, to find the American mother who had given the greatest number of sons to her country.

Looking For A Queen

DEMOCRACY looked for a queen and democracy found the queen presiding over the modest home of the West Tennessee Negro farmer, Julius Caesar Jones. Democracy brought the queen with the work-calloused hands down to Memphis; and one of democracy's leading citizens, Bishop R. R. Wright Jr., placed on her dignified, gray head a crown that she had never expected to get this side of Heaven.

It's a time-honored custom for bishops to be around when a queen is crowned. It was eminently appropriate that Bishop J. A. Hamlett should have presided over the crowd of 10,000 which paid homage to Queen Olivia Jones.

But the interest of Negro Americans in making democracy work for all Americans was also shown by the presence on the stage of two colored government officials who represented the Treasury Department in Washington picked her out after a four months' search, conducted through the papers, to find the American mother who had given the greatest number of sons to her country.

Cooper in Nashville to represent the state of Tennessee which Mother Jones has honored with her nine boys, fighting for them. Not one little crumplet to represent the city of Memphis from Old King Crump's city hall, just a few blocks from the office of Governor Prentice Cooper and Ed Crump having Negro lads, like Jones boys, fighting for them. But the "southern chivalry" the political stump treatment chivalrous treatment by the South and to America by giving their boys

66a-1944

SOUTH PRESSES FIGHT FOR LOWER RAIL RATES

Times-New York, N.Y.
1-23-44

Governors' Conference Is Spearhead of Movement Directed at Congress

By JOHN H. CRIDER

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 — The basic issue in the fight being waged by the Southern States before the Interstate Commerce Commission is whether or not the Northeast, which was the nation's industrial center when the South still had a largely one-crop plantation economy, shall continue to enjoy the competitive advantage of lower freight rates at a time when the South is struggling to develop her own industries.

Gov. Prentice Cooper of Tennessee, chairman of the Southern Governors Conference, refers to the rate differential as a tariff wall erected by the North against the South.

How the discrimination works is illustrated by such examples as these:

(1) Rates on baled, raw cotton are the same, North and South, but the equality ends the moment that any processing has been done on the cotton. Rates on unfinished cotton cloth are 10 per cent higher when it moves from South to North than when the entire movement is South. If the same product is processed into oil cloth, for example, the disparity in rates jumps to 54 per cent. 1-23-44

(2) In Dallas, Tex., there is a concern manufacturing shoes which is located close to the ranges from which leather comes. Although this firm competes with Boston shoe manufacturers, the Boston companies can ship shoes into Memphis, Tenn., Mobile, Ala., or St. Louis—all of which are closer to Dallas—for lower freight charges than can the Texas manufacturer.

Genesis of Problem

The situation arises from an interesting complication of various factors such as the gradual industrialization of the South since the abolition of slavery, crux of the old Southern plantation economy; the natural desire and effort of the Northern industrial region to maintain the character of its economy though the South could not remain dependent upon the commodities which had previously supported it; and the inability of a Federal regulatory body to keep up with the changes in regional economy.

A basic consideration in the rate differentials which grew up between the North and South was, of course, the differing cost of labor, although very little is said of this factor, as such, in the 284-page brief which the Southern Governors filed with the ICC in August. It does, however, admit that labor costs are lower in the South.

Factor of Labor Costs

The fact is that the higher freight rates in the South on manufactured products tended to compensate for the lower labor costs in that region, thus, in theory, at least, removing what Northern manufacturers regarded as an inherent competitive advantage possessed by their Southern rivals.

The case brought before the ICC by the Southern Governors Conference involves only freight rates on manufactured goods. The South asks that the present discrimination, said to favor the North by about 37 per cent on the average, be removed. 1-23-44

It proposes that the ICC make one rate-making territory of the whole area east of the Mississippi, which would mean erasure of the arbitrary line running from Norfolk, Va., to Cairo, Ill.—the Mason-Dixon Line of regional distinction in rail freight rates, now dividing the rate-making areas known as Official Territory (the Northeast) and Southern Territory.

The South says it cannot grow industrially, as it must if its living standards are to be raised, unless there is freight rate "parity" with the North.

The North, as represented before the ICC by spokesmen for the State of New York, says removal of the rate differentials would bring about an industrial exodus from the North and greatly augment the unemployment problem of that area.

The three principal objectors to the plea of the Southern States are the Southern railroads, which express fears that volume would not increase sufficiently to compensate for their revenue losses due to lower rates; representatives of the State of New York, and certain representatives of some Southern shippers.

The objecting Southern shippers are, according to the Governors, "either shippers of low-grade commodities who fear that a decrease in the class rates will result in an increase in rates on their commodities, or represent shippers of high-grade commodities who have obtained satisfactory adjustments of the rates on their commodities to the North, and fear that a parity of rates would result in narrowing their advantage within the South."

New York's Views

As for New York State, the Southern Governors' brief stated:

"Representatives of the State of New York object to a parity, even though brought about without any increase in their rates, because of the fear that it would result in a transfer of industry from New York to the South. The New York consumers are not represented and apparently receive no consideration at the hands of their public officials." 1-23-44

This statement, in view of Governor Thomas E. Dewey's importance as a possible Republican Presidential nominee, raises an interesting political question because of the Congressional coalition of anti-New Deal Democrats (mostly Southerners) with the Republicans, and the natural interest of the Republicans in wooing the Southern vote.

TENNESSEE'S GOVERNOR

The New York Times

Prentice Cooper leads Southern fight against differential rail rates.

DISEASE OF SECTIONALISM

News - Birmingham, Ala.

Thirty years ago the governor of North Carolina, Locke Craig, after studying the injurious effects of freight rates that discriminated against the development of Southern industry, urged that such rates be ended. He was moved to that crusade, among other things, by the fact that a cotton mill in Raleigh could not ship its products to the Far East in competition with mills in Manchester, N. H., because the rates from Raleigh to the California ports prohibited fair competition. From time to time since then Southern leaders have with great respect for the Interstate Commerce Commission, sought to secure equality in rates, presented their just grievances to that body. For 30 years the plea for justice has gone uncorrected. 3-15-44

The railroads in the South are owned or controlled in the main by the big banking houses in the North. The officials in direct management living in the South do not have the final say and the men who determine their policies have such great interests in New York and New England that no help has come from that source. And the unjust discrimination has gone on to such an extent as to militate against the building and operation of factories in the South. Periodically Southern leaders have urged equality, but the discrimination has not ended. When some have pressed hard for equality the answer from the industrialists in the North was: "You ought not to complain because the South has an advantage over us in lower wages. Unless we had an advantage in freight rates you could undersell us." And some of them moved their plants to the South to pay lower wages and because the most vocal men in the South were against laws forbidding child labor, regulation of hours and right of labor to bargain collectively.

And so the years have gone by as bigger and bigger factories in New England enjoyed lower freight rates and subsidies in the tariff laws, while Southern expansion in manufacturing lagged far behind. In this war, owing to having larger plants and more skilled mechanics, most of Uncle Sam's orders for war materials have gone into the crowded—often overcrowded—sections, and comparatively few have been awarded to Southern concerns. This discrimination, due to the long-time favors to industry above the Potomac, have intensified the demand by Southern leaders for an end of unfair discrimination in freight rates suffered not only in the South but also in the West.

For 30 years we have petitioned for equality. And now the South and West have decided they will beg no longer, they will file no more written petitions, but last month they sent a petition in boots worn by Southern governors to Washington to demand—and demand in no uncertain tones—that justice and equality replace favoritism and discrimination. They will no longer submit quietly to industrial bondage. 3-15-44

It is distressing that Chairman Eastman regards this petition in boots as "the disease of sectionalism." The demand is not for sectional favor and is in no sense sectional except in the sense that the discrimination has in large measure made the South and West in industry not unlike exploited colonies of the imperialistic industrial sections. 3-15-44

Having for a third of a century begged, pleaded, petitioned, the Southern and Western people have resolved to demand simple justice. That is neither sectionalism nor a disease.—Raleigh News and Observer.

1861 Is Losing Out to 1944

As South Emerges From Past

Change the World

by Mike Gold

Daily Worker

the defeat of General Lee also troubled his blood. 5-5-44

* * *

I FELT my own strong northern feelings bubbling to the surface. One is never quite free of the past. If anybody still wanted to fight over the question of chattel slavery in America, I was ready to take my stand.

Yet I caught myself in time. We were living in 1944. The slavery issue had been settled. The Southern feudalists had definitely gone down to dust.

Now we were facing world fascism. Workers and farmers of the South were fighting side by side with Northern boys. They were all saving the Stars and Stripes from being trampled under the iron heel of the Nazi.

This was the true reality—not the faded

OFTEN, while on a recent tour through the Deep South, I found myself wishing that this cruel War Between States would finally end.

Though General Robert E. Lee has finally surrendered, the news has not yet penetrated into all parts of southland.

I found bushwackers still at large in many gas stations, beer saloons and juke joints. Every barber shop was filled with hot partisans.

Traveling one day in Georgia with a Communist railroad worker, I was surprised to hear him say:

"Mike, I was readin' a history book of the War the other day. It gits you to see how well our boys fought. There was five Yankees killed to every Confederate. That's how good we fought, Mike."

Here we were, two comrades in a battered jalopy traveling among the scrub-pines and unpainted shacks of South Georgia.

We wanted the same sort of free and nitty classless world. But my Southern comrade was still enmeshed in problems of 1861.

He was a wonderful chap, honest as the day. He had painfully struggled out of awful ignorance and hatred. Yet feelings left by

dream of 1861. And unity, unity was the password! 5-5-44

"John," I said "you are right. It took five Yanks to kill one Confederate. That's how brave you-all were in 1861. Don't forget, however, that the Northern armies were often betrayed by quislings. General George B. McClellan, for example, was a Southern sympathizer—a vain little politician who hated Lincoln, and wanted to be President himself at all costs—even at the cost of his country."

* * *

MY Southern comrade generously allowed that "quislingism" might have well been a factor in the wide disparity between total casualties of North and South. Then he passed into criticism of the British Munichеers and the quislings in our own Congress.

He is fully alive to the modern issues. But as a Southerner, he cannot escape the history of his region. I believe the South would leap forward a century if overnight all records, memories and monuments of the Civil War would disappear.

Will the present war do it? Will millions of Southern boys be educated in democracy? Will they learn to hate all forms of fascism, including the regional variety found in the South? Daily Worker

Wars have a logic and dynamics of their own. This war more and more is becoming an anti-fascist war. The South is already feeling slight quivers of a new social pattern. The Rankins and such-like hog-callers of fascism cannot hold back the dawn forever. Side by side with the most insane old prejudice and brutality I could detect shoots of the new consciousness. The South is changing—1861 is still fighting hard, yet losing to 1944.

Southern Resources

News-Bham, Ala.- 5-13-44

Nearly all departments of education in the South today are giving special emphasis to the study of the resources of this section of the country and nowhere is greater attention being paid to this important phase of education than in Alabama.

A tribute to the work being done in this state under Miss Ethel Marshall, science teacher at Elyton School in Birmingham, was paid this week by Dean W. M. Rudd, of the Medical College of Virginia, at a meeting in Raleigh, N. C., of the Southern Association of Science and Industry.

A program worked out by an education committee of the S. A. S. I. embraces preparation and distribution through the schools of material about Southern resources and what may be done with them to increase their value and usefulness, and in addition the training of teachers "to so present this material that Southern youth might be fired with a desire to have a share in making their homeland a far better place in which to live than it has been heretofore." 5-13-44

Although this movement is not yet a year old, definite progress is noted throughout the South, with Alabama and Arkansas being outstanding states in the development of the program. This is a concrete move toward an understanding of and appreciation for the value of our resources which should bear much good fruit in the years to come.

We Are Liked

Age-Herald-Bham, Ala.

The South has suffered too much from an over-sensitiveness about its peculiarities. Southerners generally enjoy being teased about their soft speech, their love of moonlight, a fondness for siestas and a preference for mint juleps. But they almost froth at the mouth at the implication that the South is a series of Tobacco Roads and that none of God's chillun has shoes down this way. A better way might be to laugh off these ideas as the product of too much reading of novels and too much seeing of movies and not enough contact with reality.

Maybe as Southerners we are too sensitive for our own good. And maybe as a newspaper that likes to think it has an unswerving devotion to truth, *The Age-Herald* is too much affected by misrepresentations about the South in newspapers. But still we are irritated to read in a Northern newspaper, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, to be exact, a light vein editorial on the theme that all Southern farmers do on Saturday is to come to town and eat peanuts. 5-18-44

Of course, Southern farmers are accustomed to come to town on Saturday. But so are Midwest farmers. And Eastern farmers. And farmers of all sections of the country. It is the day when they do their shopping, attend meetings of their farm cooperatives and sell or make arrangements to sell some of their products. Perhaps what the Cleveland editor needs to do is to visit some county seat towns in Ohio on Saturdays. 5-18-44

And of course we eat peanuts. We also eat sugar candy—only in some sections they "suck" sugar cane. We don't go in much for crackers, or green apples, or pop corn, or other things which delight farmers and farmers' families in other sections.

Many things the Cleveland editor could do to correct his opinion. One thing we suggest—let him send his son (he himself probably could not stand the gaff) to Baldwin County, in South Alabama, now harvesting a crop of 3,000 carloads of potatoes, and where the farmers in order to get out the crop hurriedly while the market remains good are working all the daylight hours, Sundays included.

SOUTH'S POSTWAR NEED OF INDUSTRIES CITED

Age-Herald-Bham, Ala.

5-13-44

"The problem to which we in America must direct our thoughts is not merely employment, but the pattern of that employment," said Thomas W. Martin, president of Alabama Power Company, who is regional vice chairman of the Committee for Economic Development, in an address before the Foremen's Club Friday night at the Independent Presbyterian Church.

"There will be a tremendous postwar demand in America for the things our people have not been able to procure during the war period; maintenance has been deferred in many major industries and there will be demands for farm and factory products for reconstruction of a devastated world.

"Whatever may be the duty of industry, we can safely rely on it to do its part in providing employment. Our trouble is in relating employment to this Southeastern region. It is perfectly obvious that there must be customers, for they alone provide jobs. There will be customers in the South aplenty; but will there be customers for Southern industries, or will we continue to be largely a market for goods made in other areas?

New Industries Needed

Speaking of the necessity of establishing here industries to manufacture products to meet the needs of the people of this area, Mr. Martin said: 5-13-44

"The work of locating industries . . . is one in which we of the power company have for several decades had an increasingly important part. Those who are active in this work at the moment will tell you that there are many manufacturers who have plans for postwar production in the South of various commodities. And while for the long pull we may be encouraged, it is only fair to say that the necessity of stimulating the promotion and development of small industry in our midst is more important than ever; therefore I pose the question to you: Whether all agencies, public and semi-public, cannot in the interest of Southern economy, take a more dynamic part in such a program—a program that will also include a study of postwar foreign trade for Southern-made products?

"In developing more business for Southern plants and more plants to produce goods for Southern, national and foreign markets, we shall have to become more sales-minded; we shall have to learn how to create markets or take a share of the existing markets; we shall have to give more attention to, and improve, our advertising, our methods of packaging, our system of distribution.

Needs For Research

In speaking of the necessity of a research program, and of its importance in the future economy of the Southern region, Mr. Martin said: 5-13-44

"What can we do about new jobs in the South? Give science a better opportunity to create new products which people will be willing to pay and to work for; or let applied science so cheapen the manufacture in the South of products which people would like to possess but which perhaps are now too expensive for large-scale purchase.

"If, however, we in the Southern area grow only the things in agriculture that we have been growing, and no more cheaply, and use them in the same manner; if we manufacture only the things we have always made, and in the same traditional way; if we use our forests and minerals only as they have been used in the past decades, we shall remain, as we have been, primarily a producer of raw materials.

Institute Expected To Help

"An institute was organized several years ago ago in Alabama with the view of aiding through scientific research in the more complete utilization of the natural resources of the area. If present plans succeed, this institution will shortly get under way with a full-time, competent director and staff. It should be of great help in pointing the way to some of the many new enterprises that should be located in the South."

"The past centralization of research in other regions has drawn Southern scientists and creative minds from our area and devoted their genius to other regions. We in the South must organize for technological research and use it as a functional part of the economic life of the Southern states."

South Must Act

Mr. Martin then quoted the statement of Dr. George D. Palmer, of the University of Alabama, that "the increase of technological research is the most important long-range project in the South and one that the business man should know more about . . . If we are ever to prosper relative to other regions, we must do these things ourselves. In the final analysis, it is the business men who will determine the future of the South."

The obligation of the business men of the South were not overlooked. Mr. Martin said: "Business leadership of the South cannot limit its horizon of action to the physical production and distribution of goods and services. That will not meet the challenge of the future. We must have the courage and likewise the understanding to integrate our polices into the economic and social structure as a whole. 5-13-44

National Industries Needed

"We want the great national industries to manufacture more of their products in the South, and we should continue to encourage them to do so. They in turn will come to recognize that it is desirable to operate in more places rather than concentrate in already congested areas. The cost of living in the small communities is generally less. It is a better type of living. The same wage scale means a higher standard of living as well as a better one. In times of business recession, the burden of unemployment is more broadly distributed. The whole economy would be advanced by such an industrial policy. But expanding Southern industry is more nearly within our horizon. 5-13-44

In concluding, Mr. Martin said: "I believe the South can, if it wills, emerge from the after- effects of war, strong and virile. When we do, I believe it will again be expanding industry and that will do it for us: but its people must work as never before to bring about these results in the South in ever-increasing volume."

"Old South" Disappearing Despite The "Diehards"

Tribune

I might say th... the example of ... ed by the Sta... the cost of a wa... principles of t... protect and ... primary."

The suggest... "loony."

Optimistic Southerners of themselves into a frenzy. One of both races aver that the "old the southern exponents of the South" is disappearing, albeit Hitlerian theory of the "superior slowly, and that the resistance of race" is Frank Looney, Shreve-the "nation's poorhouse" social port, La., lawyer, ex-chairman of change is the painful evidence of the Louisiana State Central the birth pangs of a new order Democratic Committee.

in Dixie. 2-3-44

Looney, in his farewell address last Saturday, said that the Democratic party "have the power—

Meanwhile the advocates of southern members of the "white supremacy" are working

66b-1944

The South's Case for School Aid

Courier Journal — Louisville, Ky.

Equalization of opportunity by federal assistance would benefit not only the section but the nation

By FRANK P. GRAHAM.

(This is an excerpt from an address by the president of the University of North Carolina before the New England Association of Colleges, Universities and Secondary Schools in Boston, December 8.)

12-26-44

AMERICA has not yet learned to make the public schools equal in opportunity for all the children of the people. If the people in some states would spend all their general revenues on the public schools alone, they would have schools below the national average and far below the schools in some other states which spend on schools only part of their revenues raised by comparatively moderate taxes for schools. The combined endowments of all the colleges and universities in 13 Southern states is less than the endowments of two New England universities. In such a national situation some children are educationally doomed to an unequal chance regardless of ability, talents and aspirations. This is the case in the rural states and especially some of the Southern rural states. The only fair and democratic answer is found in federal aid to the states for education with control expressly left in the hands of the states and localities.

As Americans, I know you will bear with me in a discussion of the economic handicaps of the Southern people in their struggles toward a fairer and more democratic society. It is needful at the outset to remind ourselves of a great Southern heritage as a spiritual resource for transforming "the nation's economic problem number one" into a basic hope for the whole nation.

In the South we find the first English child born in the New World, the first English settlement overseas, the first representative assembly in the Western Hemisphere, the first legally established haven of religious tolerance, the first colonial resolution for American independence, the four of the five first state universities founded in the United States, the third being the University of Vermont in the then frontier territory of New England. 12-26-44

In the South was born George Washington, father of our country; Patrick Henry, eloquent voice of liberty and revolution; Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence; James Madison, chief framer of the Constitution; John Marshall, its basic interpreter; James Monroe, promulgator of the American doctrine of the two hemispheres; Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln, chief founders of democracy in America; Lee, pre-eminent soldier and stainless example of American reunion; Booker T. Washington, the American Moses of a modern Israel; and Woodrow Wilson, the world's major prophet of international co-operation.

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THE Southern people have heroically risen from the ruins of war and reconstruction, and despite a great tradition, find themselves under severe economic handicaps which constitute a national economic problem. This section with 28 per cent of the population, receives only 8 per cent of the nation's income and educates 33 per cent of the nation's children.

The tariff structure lifts wealth out of the South. The freight rate structure with its high differential against Southern farmers, manufacturers and merchants, draws wealth away from the South. The industrial-financial structure pyramids capital whose great peaks of wealth and power rise far beyond the Southern region. The population structure with its very large proportion of Southern school children constitutes an economic overload for the South and yet, if justly accounted for, through more equal educational opportunity, can become one of the chief hopes of the nation.

Federal aid to education became a historic part of the American system before even the adoption of the Constitution, has been continued in a long succession of Congressional grants to the states for agricultural, vocational and higher education, and will be a further fulfillment of the great American tradition of federal aid to the states for roads, agriculture, health, research, higher education and social security.

Failure to provide federal aid now for the elementary and secondary schools is a failure of the American system to follow through for the most basic of all American institutions. Equal educational opportunity of the children who are to be citizens of both the states and the nation is the main responsibility of our constitutional republic of states and people. 12-26-44

The emergency amount of $300,000,000, which was the amount spent annually on 300,000 young men in the C.C.C., is not an unreasonable amount to be spent toward the equalization of the educational opportunities of more than 26,000,000 school children. The two main principles for the distribution of the federal funds will be equitable distribution between the races and democratic distribution among the states according to the economic ability of the states and the number of children per adult population.

In three Southern states less than $40 per child was invested in public education, while in three states outside the South more than $120 per child was invested. A higher tax rate is required to provide the $40 per child in three states than is required to provide the $120 per child in the three other states.

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AN ECONOMIC, social and cultural lag in any part of the country is an economic, social and cultural damage to all parts of the country. Forty per cent of the young people 10 to 20 years old on farms in 1920 were in cities at the end of the decade. Sixty per cent of this net migration was from Southern rural areas. While some regions are failing to reproduce their own population, the South has a 30 per cent excess of births over deaths. The region with less than a third of the population has more than 50 per cent of the excess of births over deaths in the nation. A large proportion of the children who in their non-productive years are supported and educated by rural people become in their economically creative years the producers in the vital industries and the citizens of the urban communities. Just as within the states children in rural localities can have a fairer educational opportunity only through state aid to the localities so children in the rural states can have a more equal educational opportunity only through federal aid to the states. 12-26-44

The federal government is the only agency which can redress this economic and educational imbalance between the metropolitan areas of the greatest concentration of wealth and the rural areas of the greatest concentration of children per adult population. Three-fourths of the cost of public education is and will be carried by taxation of property chiefly local.

For the most part, taxation of agricultural property is taxation of the people on the farms where the tax is imposed. It cannot readily be shifted. Taxation of financial and industrial wealth, to an increasing extent in our integrated national industrial system, is shifted to the consumers of the whole nation. Since all sections, all resources and all the people combine to produce the wealth concentrated in the great centers and since all the people as consumers help pay the taxes on this wealth, comparatively it is just that a tiny bit of the income from this wealth as federal aid to public education should go back to the states whence it came and where are now the largest proportion of children whose equality and quality of education determine the future of democracy in America.

The South is proceeding on its part to spend more in proportion to its wealth on public education than any other American region, is proceeding to eliminate unfair discriminations in the salaries paid to Negro teachers, to eliminate the poll tax as a prerequisite to voting, to eliminate racial discriminations in the primaries and to establish the principle of equal pay and upgrading for equal work regardless of race, color, sex or creed. In North Carolina through university consolidation and inter-university co-operation we are planning and patiently proceeding to develop one of the great university centers of the nation. The South, also on its part, is asking for the elimination of freight rate discriminations and for moderate federal aid to the states for the elimination of educational inequalities in our democracy.

12-26-44

THE South and the nation cannot be isolated from the example and teachings of New England. New England cannot be isolated from the markets and values of the South. Increased education can create new needs for goods, new desires and tastes in the South which is potentially the richest undeveloped market in the Western Hemisphere. New England and the South and all America need more equal educational opportunities for all children north, south, east and west, more markets, more jobs, regional, national and international intelligence and co-operation for the great tasks ahead.

In this modern dynamic world there is no isolation of race, color or creed, region or nation. We cannot be isolated from our heritage and history, from the freedom which has made us what we are. We cannot be isolated from the woes and miseries of the conquered, stricken and hungry peoples of the earth. We cannot be isolated from democracy, for democracy hurt anywhere in the world is democracy hurt everywhere in the world. We cannot be isolated from the air above, the seas around or the lands beyond.

In this one world the gigantic industrial framework of concrete highways, steel railroads, oil pipelines, telegraph and telephone lines, high tension power lines across continents, cable lines underseas, ocean lanes, shiplines, airways and wave lengths, has encompassed the earth and tied the nations together for destruction or for co-operation. This dynamic mechanical framework catches up wars and depressions anywhere and enmeshes peoples everywhere. It may serve the course of tyranny and the destruction of civilization or it may serve the cause of justice and the advance of civilization.

Coal, iron, oil, rubber and all the far-flung economic resources of land and water, field and mine, as the stakes of the struggle for power, can divide and destroy civilization, or as the cores of interdependent creative co-operation, unite the nations for the production of abundance and freedom everywhere.

A spiritual voice calls across 2,000 years not to crucify mankind on the cross of a third world war. The 10,000,000 soldier dead of the First World War and the uncounted dead of the Second World War Americans who came from all the lands to the temple of the world's heroic dead. Britain and make of the American dream one nation again to pass of freedom and justice for all citizens now, For America with their great allies, fight in all lands the respon- to make of the human dream one world of opportunity freedom and justice for all peoples. de and trifle

12-26-44

a second time to fail to rise to the them by in unholy isolation. For A sibility of her power and the oppo of her greatness would be to trade ar

66b-1944

THE CHALK LINE

Courier – Pittsburg, Pa.

Better Conduct Campaign Will Continue; Citizens Compelled to Seek Improvement

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

1-8-44

A HALF-DOZEN or more automobiles speeded along the highway, breaking the traffic laws with reckless abandon; roaring behind them, the police thundered with sirens wide open. The police car drew up beside the only vehicle with colored riders, as the red-faced officers waved their fists and yelled for the car to "pull up to the curb." While the white speedsters continued on their way merrily, the colored motorists were haled into court. This kind of thing goes on every day all over these United States. The colored citizens are held to strict accountability for their conduct. Law enforcing officers wink at the minor offenses of white people but the colored are compelled to walk a chalk line.

Mr. Bibb

Police reporters will bear witness to the fact that colored people are arrested and jailed for the slightest infraction of the law. Most of the charges placed against them are for minor offenses, the chief grievance being labeled "disorderly conduct." Not only are petty offenders prosecuted vigorously, but here and there, they are "persecuted" by prejudiced and illtempered judges and magistrates.

MUST WALK THE "CHALK LINE"

There are times, however, when judges have become nettled and irritated at the police for arresting colored for trivial infractions and on more than one occasion they have discharged the miserable defendants and bawled the cops out for making the arrests. It is manifest moreover, that colored people are being legally held to the highest degree of public conduct by law enforcing officers.

WE have pointed out in this column, that our people are held to strict accountability for their conduct on the job, before the public, at the bar and in truth, on the entire theatre of human activity. That is why we have emphasized and stressed the point that we must be eternally vigilant of our behavior and decorum. We must walk the chalk line if we hope to break down barriers and win friends and favor.

MANY PROBLEMS AHEAD

I have received many criticisms from the reading audience who are peeved and vexed because the white man's conduct is not being subjected to a withering blast. It appears that those readers are not taking into consideration the fact that the majority of this newspaper's readers are colored people and that criticism of the white man's conduct in these columns will not cause him to change his ways. The white man, too, is sitting on top of the world and it is our problem to get up there with him. We stand a better chance of advancing ourselves by self-improvement than we will by showing up the short-comings of the dominant whites. Criticising the white man's uncivility will not open new jobs for us, will not hold us on our present jobs, will not break down prejudice and discrimination, nor will it lessen racial friction and antipathy.

THIS new year will be fraught with problems for us. Perhaps our futures for the next 10 years will hinge on the happenings during this involved period. Our political and economic destinies are tied up in the events to come. There is one thing that we can do to advance our cause and that is to measure up to the required standards of conduct and behavior.

IMPROVE SPEECH

We cannot keep pace with society's onward progress, if we continue to shuffle and slouch on thoroughfares. We must be brisk, animated and energetic. We must do our best to appear neat and tidy at all times. Our personal appearances shape sentiment. Here, again, we wish to underscore the statement that extreme styles, gaudy colors should be discarded. Our cause will be aided when our dress is toned down and the colors subdued.

ONE of the most important elements in our campaign to blast barriers and break down resistance is the matter and manner of our speech. We are made the target of jibes and the subject of ridicule, because of our careless speech. Before long, perhaps it will be helpful to institute an independent conquest for better speech. Our articulation and enunciation stamps us as being different from other Americans and because of racial separation and carelessness, our speech is becoming racial and not colloquial or provincial. Our speech must be improved and the drawling jargon of the South and the guttural jungle lingo must be discarded forever.

A 1944 PLEDGE

We are judged by the way we walk, the manner in which we dress and by our vocal expression. We have many burdens to bear and many crosses to carry, we will relieve ourselves of some of them, if we continue to improve ourselves. A pledge for '44 might well be: "My conduct shall be a bond of ennoblement and not a byword of reproach."

SOAPBOX . .

by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

People's Voice - Newyork, N.Y.

1-29-44

POWELL

IN THE MIDST of a war such as this one, public attention is usually riveted on the adult members of the population. The great concern is for men and women eligible to take their places in the Armed Forces or its several auxiliaries. The next large group to receive major consideration includes those who make up the army of the home-front and find their places in defense industries and such services. Their's is the herculean task of producing the materials of war for the fighting fronts and of sustaining normal consumer conditions at home.

In this necessary emphasis on adults during this war, a real tragedy lies hidden. The tragedy is, that the foster home and institutional care of needy children has been allowed to reach an alarmingly low level. It must be remembered that today's children are tomorrow's citizens . . . black and white.

The recent report of Leo Arnstein, Commissioner of the City Deparement of Welfare brought out several pertinent facts as they relate to children:

- the principle problem facing the City Department of Welfare today is child care;
- this is a problem for the City and Private agencies;
- "the market" for Foster homes has practically collapsed;
- due to overcrowding, placement of infants in institutions is almost impossible.

This report presented the facts for Negroes and whites alike. The solution to this problem depends upon the city and private individuals. Their good-will and generous giving will make it possible to continue the present institutions and to open up new private agencies.

All people who can possibly take these children into their homes should hasten to do so and realize that this kindness is at once a service to assure the type of citizens who will enjoy and perpetuate the things for which adults now fight.

1-29-44

At the same time, the report of the investigating committee headed by Commissioner Herlands who examined the Orphan Asylum at Riverdale is campaigning for funds and friends with whom to place its "tiny clients." Today—you can contact its offices at 306 Lenox av and give a donation or obtain information concerning taking a little soul into your home or you can give the name of a friend who will do as much

HERE TO YONDER

By LANGSTON HUGHES

Defender-Chicago, Ill.

1-15-44

Bad Is Wrong

To get on busses and street cars and talk loud and attract attention to yourself is hardly good manners. But when you not only talk loud but use vulgar language, too—then you are way out of line.

Bad manners are bad manners no matter what color you are. And colored folks are

GOD KNOWS I am a race man, and God knows I hate to say it — but more ashamed

God knows some of us don't act right when you act

that way than white folks. All many white folks say is, "That's just like a Negro!" Then they use YOUR bad manners to justify mistreating the whole colored race.

Langston Hughes

The Negro speaking voice seems to carry farther, have more volume and resonance, more clarity of enunciation than any other voice in America. These are good qualities to have but when used to excess in street cars and busses and public places, they cease to be good qualities and help create a nuisance, especially when the beauty of the Negro speaking voice is used to enunciate obscenities. Cussing has its place, but that place is not a public place.

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Influence Of Church

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Certainly it is true, most people in the same block with a colored church need not go out of their houses on Sunday to hear the sermon. And the songs and shouts carry clear for a great distance around. If you live near a colored church of the less sophisticated variety, you can often tell just what sister is shouting by the pitch and volume of her voice, or just which deacon is saying, "Amen!"

To praise the Lord in a loud voice is a sign of fervor. But to cuss in a loud voice where everybody can hear you is a sign of bad raising, thoughtlessness, and callousness toward the feelings of others. Most colored women, and especially women with children they are trying to bring up right, do not like to hear cussing in public.

But in some big city Negro neighborhoods, it is almost impossible to walk down a main colored street without hearing somebody talking very loudly and very vulgarly about somebody else's mother. Not only is that disrespectful to whoever's mother you have in mind, but it is also disrespectful to the women of our race in general who have to walk and shop on that street.

Reflection On Race

IN STREET CARS and busses and public places, to talk bad about anybody's mother, or to use intimate sex terms in a loud and vulgar manner, or to take the Lord's name in vain, is likely to make folks think that you yourself have had no mother, or if you had one, she certainly didn't raise you right, and maybe was a bad lady herself—so it reflects right back on you. If it only reflected on you as an individual, that would be bad enough, but it also reflects on the WHOLE colored race, because so many white folks do not stop to think of you as an individual. They think of you as a Negro, in fact, as THE Negro. 1-15-44

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And I reckon they just don't realize how far the rich, strong, beautiful Negro speaking voice carries. If they did they wouldn't stain that voice with all the dirty words some few among us shout out so shamelessly on street cars and busses where all of us have to ride, or on corners where so gracious a lady as Marian Anderson or Mrs. Bethune—or your own mother—might be passing.

Keep Conduct On Street Cars Good Is Suggestion

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
2-6-44

By SPIKE WASHINGTON
(WORLD Staff Writer)

White public school authorities concerned because of an editorial which appeared several days ago in a white daily commenting on student conduct and manners among whites of the city, declaring them to be serious, had some nice things to say about the conduct on street cars and buses about Negro school children.

School officials stated during a meeting late this week that there had been no complaints about the manners and conduct of Negro students on buses and cars, for the same were commended. And out of all the schools in Atlanta commendation went only to the Negro school children, and those of Hoke Smith Junior High and Girls' High.

PROUDNESS FELT

In these statements Negro school children, but before they accept too many pats on the back and bouquets, they must first weigh the truth of the assertion that the conduct of Negro children has been just what it should have been.

Several persons who ride street cars and buses regularly have called the WORLD calling attention to the statement complimenting the manners of Negro students who ride street cars and buses. Some of them feel that the statement has been exaggerated, and some say that white school authorities were speaking on a problem they knew very little about. Others feel that Negro students deserve the given them, and there are many who agree that the conduct of Negroes is bad and if that of the whites is worse than that of the Negro then the police should be called in as suggested at the meeting which was held in Rich's Tea Room Thursday of this week.

BOYS ONLY LAUGH

During the session one of the white school principals stated that he had read the editorial in the local daily to his boys and the only response to it was a laughter and more laughter from the boys. He had harsh criticism for this 'self-expression business' in the schools and attributed much of the trouble to the fact of this general trend in education.

Speaking was Hal Hulsey, principal of Boys' High, one of the targets of the criticism. He said in regard to the remarks commenting upon the fine conduct and manners of Negro students on cars and buses, "The reason you find the Negro students so well behaved is that they know they will be punished in recorder's court for any offense, while our boys, when, once they are taken to court, are let off with a pat on the back and advice not to do it again." And this certainly brings to our minds the weakness in the law, which deals one way with whites and another with Negroes. It was rather frank in Mr. Hulsey making this broad pointed and directed statement, but it is all truth. 2-6-44

"The only way youre going to cure them is to have police arrest boys who tear up streetcars, and give them a stiff fine if they have more than one offense. They should learn respect for the law, 'Mr. Hulsey stated. And we add that this should certainly be done with whites and Negroes guilty o being dealt with alike.

DON'T FAIL NOW

If the record of Negro children is as good as the white officials say it is, then these students must do their level best to keep it that way. If a mistake has been made in commending them for their fine conduct when deep down they know their deportment isn't as good as it should be, then they must begin right now to improve upon themselves. This publication is not taking sides, but only passing on a suggestion which we feel will be helpful to the Negro school children themselves, their principals and instructors and their legions of friends combined with those mothers, fathers and other kin who are sometimes trying to give them an education at sacrifices. If we are good let's keep it that way. If we are bad, then let's pull up is our admonition.

For a Cleaner Harlem to Live in
Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

The sooner more of us realize that since we have to live in Harlem, we should make Harlem reflect the best we can those refinements that prove whether the people is ready for better things, the sooner we will have better places in which to live. We are inclined to question the old complaints which make the landlords responsible for the rundown appearance of most of the buildings in our community and which present the tenants as those free from sin. The people who throw bottles into the street, who fail to curb their dogs, who litter the sidewalks with newspapers, who neglect to wash their own windows; let curtains hang in them until they are filthy with dirt aren't the kind of people who will be welcomed into our communities when and if opportunities for expansion of our population into adjoining areas are presented. Mainly because of the war, thousands of people are moving in and out of New York daily; people from far away places who have heard of and read about Harlem and are seeing it for the first time. These people aren't going back home impressed by what they see today of Harlem. Instead, they are going to ridicule Harlem as a dirty, rundown section in which its people have no community pride, no conception of civic duty, and no inclination toward constructiveness within the limits of their confines. That is why it is encouraging to note that the cleanup drive begun on 135th Street four months ago is enlarging its scope and plans are being made to embrace the whole of the Harlem community in an ambitious program to make its residents aware of the fact that "Cleanliness is Next to Godliness." This drive, it seems to us, is one of the real big things that should enlist the support of

Open House Fete to Dedicate Negroes' Community Center

News - 1-14-44

Celebration of the opening of the Booker T. Washington community center in its new location, 411 Cotton avenue, Negro agency will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, January 23, with emphasis on Harlemites. Will you help?

Troupe, professor of sociology at Fort Valley State College, will speak, and a musical program will be presented by the center glee club under the direction of Vashti Ashley and the A capella choir directed by Gertrude Daniels.

Continuing the celebration each Sunday and night through next week, there will be an art exhibit and musical Monday and three one-act plays by the Little Theater group on Tuesday, Dr. C. V. Dr. W. A. Mason of the United States Public Health Service will give a lecture on social hygiene, illustrated with slides on Wednesday night. Friday will be staunt night under the direction of the Rev. A. L. Lewis. 5-19-44

White friends of the center have been invited to the open house Sunday and to any of the events next week, it was stated.

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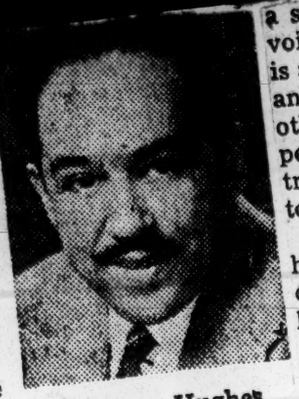

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News - Macon, Ga.
5-19-44

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White friends of the center have been invited to the open house Sunday and to any of the events next week, it was stated.

At the program Sunday Dr. C. V. Troupe, professor of sociology at the 411 Cotton avenue. Negro agency rected by Dr. W. A. Mason of the Macon Community Chest, Little States Public Health Service will will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, and there be an art exhibit and musical Mon- a program will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday and three one-act plays by the each night of next week. Dr. C. V. Troupe, professor of sociology at

New Child Clinic Opens At LeMoyne Gardens

Daily world – Atlanta, Ga.
7-20-44

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—

The establishment of a new clinic for the examination and treatment of babies and children has beeen planned and will be put in operation at the LeMoyne Gardens Housing Project, Wednesday, July 19, 1944, according to an announcement made by the Memphis Housing Authority and officials at the project last Saturday.

The clinic will be operated by the Memphis and Shelby County Health Departments and will be supervised by Dr. L. M. Graves, Health Officer for the Department.

The LeMoyne Garden Clinic will be open each Wednesday afternoon in the project's Community Center, 934-M Lenow Mall, between the hours of 1 P. M. and 4 P. M.

7-20-44

A doctor and nurse will be present along with hostesses supplied by the LeMoyne Gardens Tenant Association. The hostesses will assist the doctor and nurse.

Well babies and pre-school age children will be examined by the doctor and advice on Child Care will be given to the mothers. Cod liver oil capsules will be furnished when necessary. Inoculations against whooping cough, diptheria and small pox are an important part of the services to be offered.

Housing Manager T. O. Fuller and Assistant Housing Manager Hamilton Smith stated that the Clinic will be operated without charge and that they are inviting all residents of the LeMoyne Gardens and of the surrounding community with children in the age groups given above to take advantage of this newest of the city's child clinics.

Over $3,000,000 spent by U.S. for Negro child care

Tribune – Los Angeles, Calif.
8-26-44

WASHINGTON—During the last two years the Federal Works Agency has made available more than $30,000,000 of the Lanham Act funds to assist communities in providing child care for children of working mothers, Dr. Grace Langdon, FWA specialist in child care, told the American Teachers Association in discussing "Next Steps In Education" before the 41st annual convention of the ATA at Tennessee A. and I. state college, Nashville, Aug. 15-17.

"Approximately $3,000,000 of this sum has been spent on the care of some 10,000 Negro children enrolled in 325 units located in areas having separate facilities for Negro children," said Dr. Langdon.

"For the areas having common facilities for all children, there is no breakdown of the costs of Negro children, but it is estimated that more than 4,000 Negro children are enrolled in these units. The first group of schools is staffed entirely by Negroes and in second group many Negroes are employed, especially in sections having a sizeable Negro population."

Dent Is Named To Child Commission

Daily World – Atlanta, Georgia
4-8-44

WASHINGTON ,(ANP)—Dr. A. W. Dent, president of Dillard university, New Orleans, has been named to the executive board of the children's bureau commission on children in wartime, the labor department confirmed Thursday.

A spokesman for the department also said that an announcement would be forthcoming soon regarding the appointment of other Negroes to advisory committees in the children's bureau. The memberships of some eight such committees are now being reviewed, he said.

The report comes as an outgrowth of the conference held here early in December among trained professional workers in child welfare, health and labor, which agreed upon 17 recommendations to the department of labor and dealing with participation of Negroes in the bureau's program.

The bureau took over the farm in 1936 using it as a summer camp for one year. Formerly the country estate of a wealthy family, the place had been abandoned for years, but has had an almost complete "face lifting" during the past eight years.

Atmosphere Homelike

Teachers say that because of the homelike atmosphere at the school, the boys who leave, and especially those in the Army, often return to give advice to other youngsters and to tell of their experiences. 10-7-44

The farm is supervised by G. Harold Conley, a recent graduate of N.C. State College. Class instructors include Mrs. Virgil Walls, Mrs. Mary Pierce and Miss Dorothy Biddle.

House of Hope for Unwed Mothers, Dr. I. Whipper's Dream, Dedicated

Tribune – Washington, D.C.
8-26-44

"The House of Hope," 409 Fifty-eighth Street, N.E., established by the Lend-a-Hand Club to meet the problem of the unmarried colored girl mother in the District, was dedicated with appropriate exercises on Sunday afternoon.

Dr. Ionia Whipper, founder, director and treasurer of the institution, presided. She told of the difficulties which had been overcome and those confronting the project today.

Dr. Walter Brooks of the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church, made the dedicatory address and offered prayer. Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, president of the YWCA spoke, and the Rev. Mr. West of the Calvary Episcopal Church, also gave an effective prayer.

Miss Virginia Williams, soprano, sang "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings," Liddle.

Rooms Tastefully Furnished

The numerous guests present made an inspection tour of the recreation house and dormitories. There were beautifully appointed rooms among them, one entirely and tastefully furnished by Mrs. Gregoria Frazier Goins and Miss Julia A. Young in memory of their mother, and another furnished by A. Lichtman of the theater chain. Four acres of ground surround the House of Hope on which are magnificent trees.

Inspired by the urgent need to do something to meet the problem of the unmarried mother, Dr. Whipper summoned a group of women to meet on May 26, 1931, at the YWCA, to establish a home for such girls.

The group called itself the Lend-a-Hand Club, which is now incorporated. Many community activities have been sponsored whereby financial and sympathetic support has been received from the public, both individual and group contributions.

8-26-44

Accomplishments

The club has guided and directed more than 500 girls, through their own solicitation. Many of them were placed in homes until they were ready for hospitalization. Financial aid was given to a few from money appropriated for that purpose.

Four lots were purchased in 1934; on March 11, 1940, the club bought four and one-half acres of ground with two houses, which after extensive remodeling became the House of Hope.

The major aims of the club are:

8-26-44

To give moral, physical, cultural and material aid to unmarried colored mothers; to help the girls to so adjust themselves that they may develop into strong women, good mothers, and honest citizens; to teach them to recognize the roots and fruit of evil, to lay the foundation for better living; to perfect the unfortunate girl in whatever work they can best do.

In addition to the [illegible] which includes academic training through the sixth grade, arts and crafts and manual training, the youngsters take care of eleven buildings, cattle, pigs, chickens and 160 tillable acres of land.

Dr. Leon T. Sarjeant, president of the interracial board of directors, composed of twenty-four members, believes that the bureau will become, in the post-war days, "when the colored man, last to be hired, will be the first fired."

Broken homes and poverty have given the agency a large portion of its wards, Mrs. Ada B. Carter, executive director of the bureau, pointed out.

Cleanliness Impressed Visitors

Members of the local press, taken on a tour of the farm by Dr. Sarjeant, Mrs. Harold L. Pilgrim, another board member, were impressed not only with its well-rounded program, but with the extreme cleanliness of the "haven," despite its crowded conditions.

10-7-44

Pomeroy School Is Haven for Homeless Boys in Pa.

Afro American – Baltimore, Md.
10-7-44

Operated by Bureau for Colored Children Which Has 1000 Wards Under Its Care

POMEROY, Pa. — Upon a sprawling 258 acres of farm land here lies the Bureau of Colored Children's Farm and Vocational School, a haven for homeless boys operated by the largest child placing agency in the State.

Although the public in general has little knowledge of the operations of this agency, with headquarters at 341 N. Forty-first Street, it has more than 1,000 boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 16 under its care.

Budget Last Year $369,000

The agency has 300 foster homes where it can place its wards, a staff of approximately sixty persons, and operated last year on a budget of $369,000.

A member of the Welfare Federation, the bureau, which was established in 1927 by the late Mrs. Cyrene Benjamin of Sumter, S.C., receives support from the Community Fund, the Coun-

Crippled Negro Children Share Easter Fund Benefits

Courier-Journal & Louisville, Ky.

3-30-44

A crippled child is "just a crippled child, no matter what color he is" to the Kentucky Crippled Children's Commission and gets whatever help, funds and hospital space permit, Miss Marian Williamson, director of the commission, said yesterday.

She explained that during the annual campaign for funds the Kentucky Society for Crippled Children receives numerous inquiries from Negroes who want to know if the society's service includes Negro children.

Negro children not only are admitted to local and itinerant field clinics conducted over the state, but are sought out by field workers. They are given hospitalization for surgery and treatment at Red Cross Hospital, Louisville, and in colored wards of Good Samaritan Hospital in Lexington, and King's Daughters Hospital in Ashland.

Sixty Negro children last year were examined at the commission's clinic here, conducted in co-operation with the City-County Health Department at Beecher Terrace, said Miss Williamson. The society and the commission keep no separate records on Negro children, she added. 3-30-44

Plans for the convalescent home the society will build after the war in Fayette County include a wing for Negro children. Part of every dollar given in the Easter campaign now will be earmarked for the building fund.

Negro Youth Camp Opens Soon

(Negro)-Birmingham, Ala.

BY ALYCE BILLINGS WALKER

Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher for Negro children, the only place of its kind in the South, will open its 18th season June 5. 5-25-44

Located 12 miles below Bessemer on Big Shades Creek and covering 137½ acres, the camp is a Community Chest agency, sponsored by the Girls' Service League, Inc. The campers are housed in five buildings, two pump wells providing drinking water and Shades Creek offering swimming and boating facilities.

Originally known as Camp Margaret Murray Washington, a tribute to the wife of Booker T. Washington, the name was changed in 1942 to pay honor to the Negro woman who dreamed it and has worked tirelessly to make it a reality.

Pauline Fletcher, a graduate of the A. & M. College at Normal, Ala., was the first Negro graduate nurse to come to Birmingham and headed the first association of Negro nurses here. Nurse for hundreds of Birmingham's prominent citizens when they were infants, she later served as district nurse for the United Charities, the organization that instituted Birmingham's first welfare program. Later she was visiting nurse for the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, and then went with the Anti-Tuberculosis Association as a county nurse. 5-25-44

* * *

WHILE SHE WAS WORKING with the latter organization, she was associated with Miss Bertha Clements when the latter began her efforts that resulted in the Fresh Air Kiddie Camp for white youngsters. Pauline wanted a similar camp for Negro children and became so zealous for its reality that she gave up her nursing profession and devoted all of her time, gave all of her property to the project.

She went to individuals and organizations of her own race, sought the counsel and financial aid of her white friends and in 1926 the camp was opened with 40 campers on a plot of 50 acres. At the time, so happy to have anything at all for Negro children, she thought the 50 acres was ample space, but the adjoining property began to "look greener," so Pauline worked for five years before she finally completed negotiations and obtained the money to purchase it. Now the camp is "debt free," with the Community Chest furnishing funds for its maintenance.

If children are able to pay for their camping, they do, otherwise the camping period is free to them. Those who come from other states of the South and from neighboring counties are required to pay a tuition. 5-25-44

* * *

PAULINE HEADS THE STAFF and spends the entire Summer there. Counselors and instructors are volunteers from Negro teachers of the county. All activities associated with camping are offered, including swimming, lifesaving, handicraft, dramatics, singing and Bible study. This year, the policy followed in the past will be repeated in seeking out those youngsters who are undernourished and underprivileged.

A board of directors from leading Negro groups, with an advisory board from the white community leaders handles the policies of the camp, but, as Pauline puts it, it's a "floating" organization, with no headquarters.

Among organizations and individuals who have aided the project financially or with counsel are State Colored Teachers Association, Jefferson County and Birmingham Colored Teachers and Supervisors Association, Junior League, McWane Pipe Company, Mrs. Robert Jemison, Jr., Abe Weinstein, lumber companies of the county, Mrs. J. Smolian, Highlands Social Club, the late T. C. Windham, the late Mrs. C. P. Orr, State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, the Colored Nurses Association and an independent group of Birmingham Negro teachers, principals and supervisors.

Report Bares Untold Cruelty To Youngsters

Peoples Voice - New York, N.Y.

1-29-44

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children stands condemned this week of grossly mistreating the very children it "protects" with annual aid of $90,000 in City funds. Official report exposing results of a thorough investigation into the Society's methods was made in 1,240 documented pages submitted by the Justices' Committee: Joseph F. Maguire, chairman; Hubert F. Delany, Justice Wise Polier, and acting Presiding Justice W. Bruce Cobb, member ex-officio.

The report reveals, among many instances of unbelievable injustices, that in spite of the fact that majority of children are Negroes—and in spite of strong recommendations by the State Department of Social Welfare—the Society did not see fit to engage any Negro personnel for its staff. Although the Mayor released the Justices' report on Saturday, and it received prominent placing in all newspapers over the week-end, he did not mention the case in his weekly radio talk on Sundays, as had been expected. Conditions in the SPCC shelter provided for about 5,000 delinquent, dependent and neglected children under 16, were pictured in such an uncompromising light in the report that questions about how its funds were administered began flocking in from all sides.

Worst counts against the Society and the shelter brought out in the report are:

- it has a disinterested and "know-nothing" board of directors who rarely, if ever, visit the shelter; 1-29-44
- an ignorant staff with no background of training or experience in handling children—and in most cases not even sympathetic to children;
- no program for recreation that could be even called "barely adequate;
- insufficient, badly chosen, and badly prepared food;
- Overcrowded, poorly administered schoolrooms—hideous sanitary conditions—and work programs designed for machines, thrust on small children;
- arbitrary classification of children into "good" and "bad," no matter why they were under the shelter's care,
- and resentment created among employees because of long hours and low pay—resulting in complete indifference, and often cruelty. 1-29-44

Main point emphasized was the wretched system of punishment given to children which included confindment in a basement cell for as long as two days for mere impudence.

Men and women whose educational backgrounds are often as limited as grade schools, and whose former occupations included being anything from butcher to busboy—are still being entrusted with the care of these children while many Negroes trained in social work and child care can't get such jobs for which they are prepared.

Schools Must Aid Home Accomplish Child Development

Journal & Guide

Norfolk, Va.

1-29-44

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.—Dr. L. Thomas Hopkins, of Teachers College, Columbia University, discussed "Home and Family Living and its Relation to Education," Saturday, January 15.

This discussion was the last lecture in a series of the course "Problems in American Education," given in Rocky Mount by Dr. Hopkins to the teachers of that vicinity.

CONTRIBUTIONS LISTED

The educator listed many contributions of the home to civilization. He referred to the family as the primary agency thruogh which culture is transmitted and society is perpetuated. The family is also the primary agency for the development of human personality, he said. 1-29-44

The schools must accept the fact that the above goals are primary functions of the home yet the school has a serious part to play in helping the home reach its goals.

The school can make its environment right for the development of good personality; allow democratic relationships among the people concerned; plan a program of experiences which will make for wide contacts and breadth; direct pupils to manage their own experiences; use varied techniques of learning; and study with the child, the biological basis of life and living, he declared.

Harlem Gains A New Center

Amsterdam News

New York, N.Y.

To Aid Boys and Girls

The first all day care center in Harlem for school-age boys and girls from 5-12 years of age will be opened early in March in the newly renovated Utopia House, 170 East 130th St., under the joint auspices of the Utopia Neighborhood Club, the N. Y. branch of the National Association of College Women, the Play Schools Association and the Mayor's Committee on the Wartime Care of Children. 1-29-44

The center will be open from 8 a. m. to 7 p. m. on weekdays and Saturdays. Afternoon milk and a hot supper will be served and for kindergarten children, attending morning or afternoon public school sessions, hot lunches will be provided. The educational, recreational and health program will be under the direction of the Play Schools Association, 119 West 57th St. Activities will include: Block play, arts and crafts, sewing, painting, puppetry, games and community projects.

Utopia House will have a capacity for 70 children. Although it will follow the wartime pattern of other city-wide centers, in that at the present time it is being planned for children whose mothers are working, it will continue after the war as a permanent work-play center for children of the neighborhood during out-of-school hours.

Support of the Project

Two-thirds of the operating costs of Utopia House are being met by City and State Funds under the Mayor's Committee program. Fees for parents will be based on their ability to pay and will help to make up the final third. As public funds are not available for repairs or equipment, the money for these is being raised by the N. Y. branch of the National Association of College Women, Mrs. Leonora Pritchett, president; the Play Schools Association, Mrs. Adele S. Mossler, director; and Utopia Neighborhood Club, Mrs. Bernia L. S. Austin, president. 1-29-44

Utopia House in an outgrowth of a direct result of the response of mothers and children in the neighborhood to the all-day play school strated need by setting up an all community planning in Harlem and year 'round center.

The three-story building which will house the center is being completely renovated from top to bot-

Officers and Directors

Members of the executive committee for Utopia House are: Mrs. Alice Faide, secretary, and Mrs. Esther Bright, treasurer. 1-29-44

Learning of the project, the Utopia Neighborhood Club, a group of 25 Harlem women who organized years ago to do welfare work and to expand their program, conducted last summer in P. S. 68 at Miss Shirley made their building at 170 West 130th St., available to the interested children and parents with its gay colors and cheerful atmosphere designed to provide a healthy and happy atmosphere in which youngsters can spend their out-of-school hours. It is also hoped that Utopia House will be kept open evenings in order to serve the parents and older boys and girls of the neighborhood.

Austin, Mrs. Leonora Pritchett John, Mrs. Frank E. Karelsen, Miss Shirley Leonard, Mrs. Adele S. Mossler, Mrs. Gertrude Robinson, Mr. Frank Montero and Mrs. Rowena Shoemaker.

On accepting the chairmanship of the Executive Committee, Mrs. Speyer, who is secretary of the Play Schools Association, said:

"This is an opportunity to show how members of city-wide agencies and citizens of Harlem are combining their efforts and experience to give the children of Harlem a fighting chance. We are hoping that this center will serve as a pattern and inspiration for other community planned centers for school-age children throughout Harlem."

The need for Utopia House was stressed by Mrs. John who stated:

Fights Delinquency Rise

"Juvenile delinquency cannot be fought with just words. The need for Utopia House has grown out of the lack of such centers in Harlem and the desire of welfare minded groups to do something constructive. Children subject to neglect, inadequate parental relationships and lack of adequate community recreational resources cannot escape the menace of delinquency. Left to roam the streets after being dismissed from school, nobdoy at home, they are subjected to all kinds of degrading street influences.

"What kind of citizens will these children make when they grow up? How will they regard democracy unless they are part of it. How will they adjust to adult family life never having had a chance to see how it is done? Good citizenship and social responsibility may become to them empty phrases, distorted and cynical attitudes are likely to develop."

1-29-44

Importance of Center

"The importance of such centers as Utopia House was also stressed in a special statement issued by Miss Helen Harris, executive director of the Mayor's Committee on the Wartime Care of Children, who said:

"The Mayor's Committee is greatly concerned over the needs of children in this age group whose mothers must be at work all day and must therefore leave their youngsters to their own designs so much of the time. We are delighted to co-operate with groups such as the N. Y. branch of the National Association of College Women, the Play Schools Association and the Utopia Neighborhood Club. Their awareness of the problem children face in these times and tireless efforts in their behalf have resulted in this excellent project. When such community consciousness is widespread the success of the center is assured."

Workers Hold 2-Day Confab On Child Welfare

Inquirer Houston Texas 2-12-44

WASHINGTON — Additional government services for Negro children and additional opportunities for trained Negro professional workers in child welfare, health and labor, are urgently required, more than 60 outstanding professional workers and members of national and local organizations agreed after a two-day conference with officials of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, the department said recently.

Pointing to the Children's Bureau "responsibility to serve the needs of all the Nation's children of every race, creed and color," the conferees adopted a 17-point list of recommendations in which they called upon the Bureau to give special consideration in the administration of its program to the disabilities of children in minority groups "of whom Negro children present a large majority."

"Things that are happening to Negro children are the things in bold relief that are happening to all children," Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Director of the Department of Social Sciences, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., and chairman of the recommendations committee of the conference, said. 2-1244

Parents At Work

"Thousands are practically homeless because parents have gone to war or to work; other thousands have migrated with their families into new and unfamiliar settings; many of them to live in unhealthy, cramped and cheerless centers; many of them to be barred from services provided as a matter of course to children in established homes and communities. In the long run, the best safeguards and security for Negro children rest in the determination of he whole Nation to provide good care for all of its children. We cannot care for our minority children one-handed; we need the cooperation of all of the races represented in our country."

The conferees included doctors, nurses, child welfare workers, ministers, educators, and law-enforcement officers, actively engaged in work for Negro and white children, and also members of women's labor, and civic organizations with child-welfare programs. They came from 18 states and the District of Columbia.

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE

After consideratoin of the Children's Bureau's responsibility to serve the needs of all the Nation's children of every race, creed, and color, particularly the needs of disadvantaged and handicapped children whoever and wherever they are, the members of this conference, having reviewed the special needs of children in minority groups, of whom Negro children represent a large majority, recommend that:

1. The Children's Bureau strengthen and extend services to Negro and other minority children in both rural and urban areas.

2. The Children's Bureau increases the participation of qualified Negro personnel in its program for children in the United States.

3. The Children's Bureau encourage in every possible way the participation of Negro professional staff in the State operation of Federal-aid programs.

4. National private organizations concerned with children be encouraged to strengthen and extend their programs to meet more fully the needs of children in minority groups.

5. The Children's Bureau, in cooperation with other agencies, explore the mental-hygiene implications for children of both minority and majority groups in the areas of racial tension.

6. Opportunities for professional and post graduate training be extended for doctors, nurses, midwives, social workers, nutritionists, and health-education workers with special competence in work with children and that appropriate opportunities be developed for training a non-professional persons who work with children.

7. The Children's Bureau in collaboration with other agencies, concern itself immediately with a training program in matters pertaining to race for professional workers, including health workers, social workers, recreation leaders, law-enforcement workers, and teachers, in order that Negro and white children who are under the guidance and protection of these workers may receive understanding and sympathetic direction.

In view of the above recommendation it is further recommended that the Children's Bureau collaborate with agencies, organizations, and foundations in the preparation for professional schools of teaching material in matters pertaining to race.

8. The Children's Bureau prepare a manual or a supplement to the pamphlet on "Selection and Training of Volunteers in Child Care" which would adequately interpret the subject of racial attitudes and relationships among minority groups.

9. The gathering, tabulation, and analysis of statistics by the Children's Bureau be broken down according to race, color, nationality, or in any other manner that will serve areas, and as an administrative tool advantageous in building programs on a sound foundation of factual material.

10. In recognition of:

(a) the high incidence of tuberculosis among Negroes especially throughout childhood and adolescence, the Children's Bureau cooperate with other public and private agencies in promoting the control and treatment of tuberculosis among children.

(b) the serious problems involved in sex education and the control of venereal diseases, particularly among children, the Children's Bureau cooperate with public and private agencies for the treatment and control of these problems and in educational programs with regard to them.

11. The Children's Bureau promote the improvement and expansion of existing facilities to meet the great need of Negro working mothers whose children are not receiving adequate care and protection.

12. The device of standing advisory committees to the Children's Bureau be reviewed and evaluated with special attention to the possibility of increasing Negro membership on each of these committees and providing adequate Negro representation on committees to be appointed: such membership to be chosen on the basis of skills as well as understanding in matters pertaining to race. 2-12-44

13. The Children's Bureau encourage the States and local communities to utilize the participation of available Negro leaders and to develop such potentiol leadership as may be available but not yet in contact with public programs for children.

14. Although substantial progress has been made for all children, including children in minority groups, it is the experience in programs of Federal aid to the States that unless there are safeiviete aeuable -r.tohbrj basee ET ET ET guards, Negroes will not receive equitable benefits and these safeguards require:

(a) Legislative provisions to assure squitable distribution of services to children on the basis of need.

(b) Administrative machinery, adequate to carry out this policy.

(c) Firm purpose on the part of the administrators of the Children's Bureau to to administer precisely the Bureau's stated policy with regard to the distribution of services.

15. In all conditions of family mobility involving migration for war work and agricultural labor, the safeguards considered essential for children living in established communities should be strengthened, maintained, and extended for the benefit of migrant children.

16. That the Children's Bureau urge, wherever it has opportunity, that equality of treatment of all children, regardless of race or color, be made a fundamental policy in all programs of relief and rehabilitation for foreign nations.

17. In recognition of the value of the present conference a similar conference be called by the Children's Bureau at an appropriate time with the participation of other Federal agencies concerned with children.

Commission Named By Broughton On Care Negro Children

Shelby, N.C. Star

GOLDSBORO, April 4.—A five-man commission appointed by Governor J. M. Broughton will meeet here Thursday to begin work on recommendations to the next General Assembly on a program for the care, treatment and training of Negro feeble-minded children in North Carloina.

The commission is directed in a resolution passed by the General Assembly to make its report to the governor at least 30 days before the next session. 4-4-44

Members are Senators Thomas M. O'Berry of Goldsboro, chairman, Senator K. A. Pittman of Snow Hill, and Reps. W. Frank Taylor of Goldsboro, Robert P. Burns of Roxboro and Charles F. Honeycutt of Clinton.

Negro Children's Day Home Proves Help to Mothers

Banner—Nashville, Tenn.

4-27-44

Although less than two years old, the South Street Community Center, 1105 South Street, a day home for children of working Negro mothers, has rendered admirable services. The experience of one young widow serves as an example.

Finding ends just wouldn't meet after several months of paying $4 a week for each of her two children, plus paying on a continuous grocery bill for both the "nurse lady" and the children, she found the solution to her problem at the nursing home.

After talking with a social worker, the widow found she had been feeding two families, leaving her not even enough money for bus fare.

Now her mind is at rest, for she knows that her children are well cared for during the day. They receive one well-balanced meal, two light lunches, breakfast, if preferred, rest period, supervised play, training in personal hygiene as well as medical attention.

The center, housed in the old Lawrence School buildings, which was a consolidation of two schools, is now a beneficiary of the Community Chest. 4-27-44

In addition to the day nursery, the center also sponsors a recreation program for boys and girls. There is a music department, most of the instruments having been salvaged from attics, basements and second hand stores. Every evening you may hear strains of the Victory March or other pieces.

Also included in the recreation program are Boy and Girl Scout troops as well as Girl Reserves and a Cub pack. 4-27-44

Still other examples of the services rendered by the center are the annual programs including World Fellowship and prayer services for adults and a summer playschool for children from 6 through 12 years old.

Evidence of the expanding program of the center are plans for a "Teen Town," similar to other such projects in the city, being made by the recently organized Youth Council, composed of high school students.

LaGrange Council of Church Women To Give Shower For Negro Nursery School

News—La Grange, Ga.

The LaGrange Council of Church Women will sponsor a shower for the Negro Nursery School which is being established in the building formerly used by the Union street school, the shower to be given Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock in the Maidee Smith class room of the First Methodist education building.

The following items are needed to complete equipment of the nursery school; crayons, scissors, construction paper, (white, colored, and manila) newsprint, paper napkins, towels, color books, picture books, story books, simple games, mothers (new or broken ones that can be mended) hand towels, wash cloths, soap, bath mats 36" by 27" or rest periods) mugs or heavy

Eight Child Care Centers Are Open

Kansas City, Mo. 6-23-44

The School Age Centers are at the Attucks, Wendell Phillips, Booker T. Washington and Yates schools. The Nursery schools are at the George Washington Carver Center, the Garrington Booker Washington and Wendell Phillips schools.

Any child whose mother is regularly employed away from home may be enrolled in these schools. It is not necessary that the mothers are at work all day, six days a week. There is constant adult supervision for as long as three days a week. Four are for children from 6 to 14 and four for pre-school age children from 2 to 5.

Children at Utopia Center sit down to a noonday dinner of liver, potatoes, turnips, carrot sticks, bread and butter, milk and cake. Their mothers, busy at jobs, know they are safe and receive nourishing food to build their bodies. Mrs. Majorie Montero, director of the center looks pleased at the display of hearty appetites.

What Can Be Done for Child Care--

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.

Utopia Center in Harlem Is Example

4-20-44

By Helen Fitzgerald

"We are not deaf, don't shout," reads a sign, lettered by a child's hand which was hanging on the wall of a brightly painted recreational room at the Utopia Children's Center on 130th St.

"Don't Push," "Walk, Don't Run," were others.

They're the handiwork of the house council of this child care center which takes care of working mothers' tots between the ages of five and 12 every day, except Sunday.

Eleven-year-old William Patterson, a student at P. S. 89 explains: "We are trying not to destroy the house, or to mark up the building. We are polite. We are learning not to run up and down the steps."

Mrs. Majorie Montero, director of the center, which was opened on March, thought the house council was a good way of developing the children's responsibility, not only toward the center, but generally.

"It is a little taste of democracy and self government," she added.

ACCOMMODATES ONLY 70

At Utopia Center children are cared for by trained personnel and receive three hearty meals a day. Open from 8 A. M. to 7 P. M. it is operated under city and state funds through the Mayor's Committee on Child Care in Wartime. Parents' fees, depend on their income, and range from 75 cents to $3.00 weekly.

The center is very popular and has a long waiting list. "Unfortunately, we can only accommodate 70 children here," Mrs. Montero explained, "the need for these centers in Harlem is great because of overcrowding and low incomes. Four and five people, a whole family often live in one room. 4-20-44

"And these child care centers are not only a wartime need," Mrs. Montero emphasized. "Negro mothers have always worked. Their children have only the streets to play in after school is out. There is a need for centers within a radius of every four or five blocks in Harlem."

At Utopia the youngsters receive besides meals, cod liver oil, vitamin and fruit juices. There are two daily rest periods. Modern educational methods are used and children learn how to make things, or express themselves in other ways. This spring the children are starting a victory garden.

INTER-RACIAL STAFF

The door is open to all children regardless of race, color or creed and the staff is inter-racial. Besides a director and assistant director, a staff of seven including five teachers, a cook, assistant cook and a custodian keep things running smoothly. 4-20-44

Parents are not neglected either a parents committee has been formed, not only to get together for social evenings, but to work toward securing additional child care centers, greater use of public medical services and other projects. Fathers repair equipment for the center.

The Utopia Children's Center didn't just happen. Community groups interested in child care got together—The Utopia Association donated the building. A benefit dance netted a substantial sum. Individuals like Shirley Friedman, principal of P. S. 68 who sent out notices on the opening assisted in many ways. And Utopia Center is certainly a shining examples of what cooperation between state and city agencies and community organizations can achieve.

Lack of Funds Hit Phila. Child Care

The Worker-New York, N.Y.
2-20-44

(Special to The Worker)

PHILADELPHIA.—Child Care centers in Philadelphia and some 23 other communities throughout the country are being held up for lack of Federal funds.

Lanham Act funds are exhausted in Washington. The House appropriations Committee has not yet reported out the Deficiency Bill which would supply more money.

In Philadelphia, this means that the Board of Education, which has taken over operation of the 11 existing nurseries, is unable to go ahead with nine new child care centers it has planned for lack of $250,000 in federal funds.

A similar bottleneck affects the 23 other communities throughout the country that have applied for Lanham Act funds to open new centers. 2-20-44

CONGRESSMEN DUBIOUS

Furthermore, word comes from Washington that certain Congressmen are dubious about appropriating money to take care of applications, such as Philadelphia's, for additional nurseries, and are thinking of appropirating only enough money to take care of the 27 nursery projects in the country that have previously gotten federal aid.

In terms of defeating Hitler quickly, this means that thousands of women are being kept from taking war jobs, or are being forced to leave them because there is no place to keep Johnny or Mary.

Mrs. Lilliam Narins, secretary of the Philadelphia Committee for the Care of Children in War Time is urging all community groups, unions, and other organizations to support the child care program by writing or wiring local Congressmen, and also members of the House Appropriations Committee, to pass immediately the Deficiency Bill, and to demand a public hearing on it.

Hazel Scott, Pearl Primus Build Jersey Home For Kids

Amsterdam News-New York, N.Y.
1-22-44

Negro and white youngsters who will take possession of the new bungalows at the workers' children Camp Wo-Chi-Ca in New Jersey, will find some difficulty in explaining who built their new Summer home.

Those children who favor the dance will say "Pearl Primus built this wonderful place for us with her beautiful dancing feet. Those who are learning to play piano and sing will say, "The beautiful Hazel Scott, with her magic fingers and lovely voice, built this bungalow for all God's children.'

The fact is each group will be telling the truth. Here's how.

Both Hazel and Pearl are performing at the Variety Musical Program and Dance of the Lincoln Steffen's Lodge 500, International Workers' Order, to be held on Saturday, February 5th, at Webster Hall in New York City. The proceeds of this event will make possible the erection of a new bungalow enabling more Negro and white children, than in pervious summers, to spend the vacation months in the New Jersey countryside. 1-22-44

Talk to Pearl Primus about Camp Wo-Chi-Ca and she'll tell you: "As children, we carry deep in our hearts the richest of human affections, free from bigotry and hates We must help our children grow up with this affection strengthened. We owe it to them. And that is why we must be generous when it comes to helping organizations that help children. That is why I will dance for Camp Wo-Chi-Ca and that is why you should come to see me dance."

PHILADELPHIA CHILD CARE CENTERS such as pictured are periled by lack of funds. Pictures show (right): Mrs. Anna M. Gillard at the Mt. Carmel center at 4732 Race St. helping the children with their homework. In the other photo Spanish, Jewish, Negro and Irish boys make friends at the Richard Allen center, 10th and Parish Sts. (Left to right): Candido Gonzalez, 8; Frederick Bernstein, 7; Berney Henderson, 6; and Stephen Havrilla, 6.

2-20-44

Philadelphia Child Care Centers Attract Nationwide Attention

The Worker-New York, N.Y.
2-20-44

Ideal War Community Hails All But Commander-in-Chief

PM-New York, N.Y. 3-23-44

By one of those inspirational reaches of the long arm of coincidence, the ancient Connecticut Valley settlement of Meriden, Conn. (founded 1661) has been designated "an ideal war community" by the War Manpower Commission at precisely the same time MGM is releasing *Main Street Today*, a war short devoted to the manpower problem in just such a community as Meriden.

In celebration of this coincidence, MGM and WMC joined forces Monday evening at Meriden with an invasion of political and theatrical stars and a train of photographers, journalists and publicists to tour Meriden's many war plants and then draw the obvious comparisons from a preview of *Main Street Today*.

We didn't get around to the preview until nearly 1 o'clock the next morning, but from 5 p.m. until then, we did get around Meriden plenty.

The Silver City

Meriden (pronounced Muriden by its residents and Meridian by many of the visitors) is known as the Silver City because it is the home of Rogers 1847 silverware.

It is also the home of Rosa Ponselle, Big Ed Walsh, the old White Sox pitcher who now works at the Meriden pumping station; Connie Mack, who caught for Meriden somewhere back in Abner Doubleday's day; and the Republico-Danahers—Cornelius J. Sr., State Labor Commissioner; Cornelius J. Jr., Municipal Court Judge; Mayor Francis M. Danaher and U. S. Senator John A. Danaher (who lives in Hartford now but always comes back to Meriden for shindigs). The senior Senator from Connecticut, Francis T. Maloney (Dem.) is also a Meriden boy, as they still call him along Main St. where he used to shine shoes, run errands and wait table in the old days. 3-23-44

Meriden's claim to the honor of being "an ideal war community," an honor it admittedly shares with hundreds of unnamed communities throughout the country, traces to its exemplary mobilization of manpower and community resources for war production. International Silver (Rogers 1847) now makes shell casings. New Departure Coaster Brake (now a General Motors division) has grown to the city's biggest plant, manufacturing ball bearings. Connecticut Telephone and Electric makes portable telephone equipment; a little outfit called the Cuno Engineering Corp. has quintupled its operation in five years, making filters for engines of all sizes.

All-Out at Work

There are 20,000 war workers in Meriden against about 11,000 peacetime workers. The population has gone up from 40,000 to 46,000. Gray-haired war mothers mingle with teen-age girls at the machines and assembly benches of Conn. Tel. and New Departure; schoolboys work part-time; there is, according to the cops, no delinquency problem and the number of saloons has dropped by 20 or 30 since the war began.

International Silver is not unionized but Cuno is, for example, and so is New Departure; and every plant of more than 100 workers has a labor-management committee which works out transportation problems, car pools, bond drives etc. More than 15,000 of Meriden's 20,000 war workers buy bonds the payroll deduction way. Girls at New Departure start at 59 cents an hour and level off at 72. Men in the foundries at International Silver, moulding 100-lb. brass ingots, get $1.25 an hour. Most of the plants work three shifts, and there is not too much overtime. Wilful absenteeism is virtually non-existent; and there hasn't been a strike in Meriden for 10 years.

Child Care; Negroes

Meriden is just buckling down to its child care problem, with the impetus given it by its one Day Child Care Center organized by a public-spirited church worker named Jane Woodruff. The local YWCA is now organizing neighborhood child care cooperation, in which working mothers take turns caring for groups of children while the other mothers are at work.

One ugliness on Meriden's ideal face appeared six months ago when New Departure brought in several hundred Negro workers and then local real estate interests and some residents refused them proper housing. Since then, however, the pleasant Gale Terrace federal housing development has opened its gates, and according to Negro girls I spoke to at New Departure there has been no trouble since.

Without waiting for further race or religious differences to divide them, some leading Meriden people have already taken steps to assure cordial all-around relations. The guilding spirit in this work seems to be the Rev. Isaac Smith, Universalist. On Sunday night last the Rev. Mr. Smith staged an all-faith rally at the municipal auditorium with a rabbi, a priest and himself as speakers, and 1000 people turned out for it, despite the gathering snow-storm. 3-23-44

Durante's Big Day

Whether or not the opportunely timed "selection" of Meriden as the ideal wartime community (there was no competition) was coincidence or a put-up job, Meriden has taken the honor quite seriously. The celebration train (two special cars hooked on the 2:20 out of Grand Central) was met by a good thousand folks of all ages in the blinding snowstorm. They understandably by-passed the main guest, Manpower Commissioner Paul McNutt, to mob Jimmy Durante (who loved it!) and Luise Rainer, just back from the Italian war front.

On the tour of the war plants, about the Republican Danaher grows in Brooklyn." The other was Jimmy stole the show in every department. At dinner he stole it again with two gags. One was about his new dog, which Jimmy says drags him across Brooklyn Bridge every time they go out for a walk because "de mut hoid a tree her, I don't tink dere would ever one-armed returned veteran of Kas-supposed to swing into the groove

serine Pass, all conspired to steal the show again. In his part of the broadcast Mr. McNutt hailed Meriden as real Main Street America, beauteous Mr. McNutt's big as a "true cross-section of the nation at war" and promised returned it was supposed to come at war workers "the best possible deal" Palace Theater, in a broadcast the preview of *Main Street* But there Jimmy, Capt. a grateful country can offer them." Miller and his orchestra and There was a hot little local band ar workers, one of them a with an evening-frocked songstress ned returned veteran of Kas- supposed to swing into the groove

Maloney!" 3-23-44

after the broadcast but after a few introductory licks they were shushed and for 15 minutes the audience fidgeted politely while from backstage came dim echoes of Mr. McNutt, recording himself over and over for newsreel posterity.

66b-1944

Savannah Ga. News
January 4, 1944

CHATHAM NEGROES TO GET COMMUNITY HOUSE

To Be Built at Montgomery For Colored People

A community house for colored people will be built at Montgomery in Chatham county, according to information furnished by Robert A. Young, vocational teacher of agriculture at the Haven Home School.

Young has been deeply interested in building a community center for colored people that will enable the children and the adults in all the communities and neighborhoods in the southeastern section of Chatham county to have a place where they might go for recreation and for information.

Already he has raised approximately $275 with which he has bought and paid for the grounds on which the buildings are to be erected. Dr. L. N. Turner of Montgomery has shown deep interest in the program being advocated for the benefit of negroes living in the rural districts of this county. Largely through his influence $1,000 has been raised to begin construction work on the building. The proposed building will cost approximately $2,500.

The Georgia State College has been asked to supervise the planning and construction of this center. The college has led in developing centers of interest for negroes in rural areas. Log Cabin Center in Middle Georgia sponsored by the college and built in 1932 was the first building of its kind planned and constructed for rural negroes in the South.

Booker T. Washington Community Center

News— Macon, Ga.

We wish that every citizen of Macon, white and black, could have attended the opening exercises of the Booker T. Washington Community Center last Sunday afternoon at its new quarters on Cotton avenue.

The program of these exercises, as to both content and execution, would have done credit to any comparable white organization. Moreover, it was an index of the good work the institution is now doing in this city.

Macon has many good colored citizens. Their interest in, and their work with, this institution illustrates their value to this community. 5-29-44

The Center derives support from the Community Chest. It is managed by a policy-determining board composed of six Negroes and six white persons. Its executive staff is composed wholly of Negroes and its work is exclusively with the colored population.

The activities of the Center are many and varied. It houses the colored branch of Washington Memorial Library; carries on a comprehensive program of recreation and education; teaches health and sanitation; is specially concerned with trying to cure and prevent juvenile deliquency; and endeavors in many other ways to make the Negro a better man and a better citizen.

Aside from the good the institution is doing for the Negro race itself, there is no more valuable agency in Macon for the creation and preservation of good

Community House

racial relationships than the Booker T. Washington Community Center.

We commend the Center for the good work it has already done and is now doing. It deserves the sympathy and support of every citizen of Macon.

66b-1944

NEGRO TO LEAD CHEST DIVISION

Birmingham Age Herald 8-10-44

Plans for the Community Chest Appeal this Fall were furthered Wednesday with the announcement that Wilbur H. Hollins, of Hollins & Shores Realty Company, Negro business man and civic worker, will be chairman of the Negro division of the drive. The announcement was made by George A. Mattison, Jr., general chairman of the appeal, and his co-chairman, William H. Pitts. 8-10-44

The Rev. John W. Goodgame, pastor of the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, Southside, has been appointed co-chairman of the division.

Both appointments were made on the recommendation of the Negro adivsory council of the Community Chest, through Robert Burr, chairman, and ratified by appeal leaders.

The new division chairman was co-chairman of the Negro division in the campaign two years ago. He is president of the Birmingham branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, also secretary of the Greater Birmingham Negro Business League; member of the Boy Scout Council; member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and a secretary of the National Progressive Voters League. He is a member of the First Congregational Church.

Appeal Chairman Mattison, in announcing the appointments, pointed out that Negroes in this district had steadily, through the years, increased their total in the drive, and predicted that under such capable leadership this record would continue. He also expressed the appreciation of himself and his co-chairman, Mr. Pitts, for the fine spirit of cooperation shown by these leaders in assuming this responsibility and thus giving additional assurance of the success of the united appeal.

Parenthood Discussed At Luncheon

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
1-29-44

NEW YORK—With the official count showing a record crop of more than 3,000,000 babies born in 1943, youth representatives from various fields were scheduled to take up the topic of "Parenthood as Young America Wants It" at a luncheon sponsored by the Planned Parenthood Federation of America in cooperation with the New York State Federation for Planned Parenthood, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Tuesday.

Principal phases of current youth interest—armed forces, war industry, Negro, education, and religion were represented by speakers.

Among the participants were: the Rev. G. E. Ulp, pastor, Brighton Presbyterian Church, Rochester, N. Y., and Ruth Young of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America.

The armed forces were represented by Captain Rudolph F. Amyot, U. S. Army Medical Corps who presented a picture of the difficulties which parenthood brings to soldiers and their wives and the means by which they may be met. 1-29-44

Winifred Norman, president of the National Council of Negro Youth, showed that the loss of Negro mothers in childbirth is twice that of white mothers and argued for more adequate measures to strengthen Negro health and family life.

A panel discussion followed the speeches.

Stresses Social Hygiene As Aid To Family Life

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.
2-19-44

Broadcast On Communicable Diseases Heard

RALEIGH, N. C.—"The primary aim of social hygiene is the preservation of family life and the improvement and enrichment of family life," declared Allen Ericson Weatherford, director of health and physical education of St. Augustine's College, in a broadcast over Station WRAL Wednesday, February 2.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Mr. Weatherford, speaking on behalf of the National Student Health Association, asserted that "communicable diseases are as much our enemy on the home front as those enemies whom our youth face in the foreign lands."

The speech was delivered as a feature of the observance of National Social Hygiene Day among Negro Colleges, sponsored by the student association in cooperation with the National Social Hygiene Association.

"Communicable diseases such as influenza, colds, syphilis, gonorrhea and tuberculosis, spare no group, creed or color," he said.

"To combat successfully these diseases, the educational, economic and social principles to be applied should be the same; the preventative identification, and curative measures should work for all groups. Communicable diseases seem to get its best start among and takes its unnecessary toll of the poor, ignorant and the underprivileged groups."

NO NATIONAL ADVANTAGE

Continuing, Mr. Weatherford declared:

"From the standpoint of natural heritage, and from one's knowledge of vital statistics, it is not difficult to understand that no group has the advantage over the other, living in the same locality, in vigor and natural resistance to diseases. 2-19-44

"The seeming advantage of any group as shown in the lower death rate, with perhaps a few exceptions, is not a real inherited one but acquired through a good environment, education, social and economic factors, means of protection against preventable diseases, and violent causes of death. In other words, there is no inherent reason why the death rate of any one group should not be about as low as that of another if all causes operating to produce a higher death were removed.

"If we are to be triumphant over these deadly diseases, if we are to have freedom from fear of the unseen, if we are to enjoy the laughter of the little ones in our homes and the pleasurable associations of those whom we meet from day to day, and if we are to give those whom we love so much our fullest support and cooperation in foreign lands, we must consider these diseases TARGET FOR TODAY.

"Therefore, this community, like all other good American communities, is calling upon you as citizens, along with its doctors, lawyers, pharmacists, health officers, police officers, the mayor, business men, labor leaders, ministers, teachers, youth leaders, employers, and parents to join hands in this nationwide drive in Target for Today. Although many a battle has been lost by a strong-hearted people, it is the final victory we all must gain."

Family

One God---One People

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.

THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE been carrying an increasing number of accounts of sex crimes and offenses in recent weeks. It is true that the whole matter of sex comes into greater prominence during war times. The moral tenor or a nation experiences a severe blow in periods of war. This condition prompts these observations. 3-11-44

RICHARDSON

PARENTS MUST SHARE BLAME

God gives a man and a woman the greatest gift life can afford when he gives them a child. From the moment of birth until the child is able to take care of itself the parents are responsible for the childs total wellbeing. No child, boy or girl has a fair chance of a happy development who is kept in stupid darkness concerning its body, its emotions and its natural sexual urges. The wise parent will find out the facts about sex, reproduction, social diseases and allied subjects and with patient, thoughtful care pass these facts on to his or her child. The parent must be certain of securing sound up to date information from men of science and medicine.

SOMEONE WILL IF YOU DON'T

A child can always find some other child or adult who is more than willing to educate it in matters of sex. The trouble here is that such persons are almost never correctly or well informed and in the case of unscrupulous persons they usually insist on the demonstration of these lessons to the misfortune of the child involved. The streets teem with adults who lie in wait for the innocent child. The damage done is often irreparable.

The impulses toward love and romance are perfectly natural. When Jesus spoke of love he meant love in all of its ramifications. If he didn't we would be sorely disappointed in Him. Sex and love go together. Some people do not know how to establish and maintain the right proportions of each and either have all affection and little or no sexual content or they overweigh the sexual aspects to the harm and destruction of the armorous elements of their love life. Take it as you will parent, your child is going to have to face the issue. He or she will be confronted with it when you are not there. The childs success in handling the matter will reflect in a large degree the teachings you give. 3-11-44

TABOOS WONT WORK ANY LONGER

The old way was to act mysterious and pious about the subject. The child got the impression that there was something unforgivably sinful about the word sex. No greater sin has ever been committed against humanity than this vile deception and camouflage of truth. The Church has and still leads in this foolishness.

If a minister has a child he knows how he got it. He knows what embarrassments he experienced in life if he was one of the deceived and ignorant . . . kept that way by well meaning but wrong doing parents. Creed or no Creed, church or no church, to hell with doctrines and denominations, Catholic, Protestant or Jewish. . . . The minister owes his first allegiance to his God and God expects the Pastor of a flock to keep his own sheep secure and safe.

The church should be the first institution to insist that parents play fair with their young. The church preaches morality and tells us we will all die and go to hell if we don't behave (actually our hottest torment and the only one we know is here. When the child goes wrong the parent suffers. Society suffers.

PROGRESSIVE SEX EDUCATION 3-11-44

The process of educating the child in matters of sex should be a gradual one. It should be done intelligently and with practical many points, some of them interpreting the physician's instructions naturally be a gradual one. It should be done intelligently and with practical demonstrations in looking after the baby in the home. the frequent guidance of nurses or doctors. Such help can be secured free. Clinics that treat children will advise the parents. When the course is free. Admission to the child comes of increased age his information should be geared to Clubs should be for expectant mothers. respect his years. Frank, friendly, chats with Junior by his Dad will get in touch with Miss Florence Genschmer, supervisor of the seal their filial regard and guarantee the boy a better chance at Washington Heights Center, Henry Street Visiting winning the battle of life. A similar talk by Mother to daughter will Nurse Service, 600 W 168th st (telephone number, Wadsworth weld them together in the most beautiful love and mutual caring. 3-5542). This home instruction closes the door to the wizened derelict who peddles filthy post cards and the greasy hag who entices little girls into bad habits with the happy prospects of "thrills."

Clubs for Mothers-to-Be

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.

The Washington Heights Center of the Henry Street Visiting Nurse Service is starting two new Clubs for expectant mothers. One group will meet at 2 o'clock each Thursday afternoon, beginning March 2nd, in the Jewish Memorial Hospital, Broadway and 196th st; and the other group will meet at 2 o'clock each Friday afternoon, beginning March 10th, in the branch of the New York Public Library at 145th st, just west of Amsterdam av. 3-11-44

The weekly lectures and discussions in the Mothers' Club cover

FAMILY INCOME IS UP

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.

One in Every 3 Gets $3,000; Much in Ten had That in 1935-1940

WASHINGTON—One out of every three American families now has an income of more than $3,000 a year, compared with only one in ten families between 1935 and 1940. 3-11-44

Commerce Department publication also disclosed today that last year's estimated per capita income of $1,050 for every man, woman and child in the country was more than double the 1935-39 average of $520.—(A. P.)

Negro Child Care Centers Approved For Chapel Hill

News-Hillsboro, N.C.
5-20-44

Chapel Hill, April 19. — A contribution of $24,384 for the maintenance and operation of two child care centers in the Chapel Hill area has been approved by the Public Works Administration, Supt. A. W. Honeycutt of the Chapel Hill schools has been notified.

The money will go for renovating and maintaining two centers where Negro children may be cared for during the day while their parents are at work. Mr. Honeycutt told The NEWS today that two buildings have been already selected as sites, and that remodeling work will begin at once. 5-20-44

Texas Woman Gives $20,000 To Home

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
5-6-44

HOUSTON, Texas—Culminating a lifetime ambition, Mrs. C. A. Dupree, the charming wife of a famous Houston businessman, recently presented a certified check for $20,000 to a home for children which incorporates a Negro Child center in its set-up.

With the thought of helping to curb juvenile delinquency as it affects Negro children, Mrs. Dupree had this to say: "I believe that children, if given a chance, will develop into good citizens. I have worked hard to save this money. I have no children of my own, and feel that in helping other person's children, I am doing something worthwhile."

WIFE OF BALLROOM OWNER

Mrs. Dupree is the wife of C. A. Dupree, owner of the popular El Dorado ballroom. A home such as the Dupree donation will set up is definitely needed in Texas, and although many organizations have placed such a need on their programs, until this moment nothing has been done. 5-6-44

In presenting the check to Ben Taub, president of the Dep Elchin Faith home, of which the Negro Child center is a part, Mrs. Dupree aided a project that will serve hundreds of children. At present the center is operating in a small house on West Dallas street.

Mrs. Dupree received the praise of the official staff of the center and plans were immediately gotten under way for the investing of the donation. The doner is an active member of Trinity Methodist church and has taken a leading part in all civic and social programs in the city, including the Third War Loan drive.

Carver School Opens Tonight

Daily Worker—Newyork, N.Y.
10-2-44

The George Washington Carver School opens its 1944 fall term tonight, October 2, with a curriculum revised and expanded to meet the needs of the community.

As a part of the fall program, a special course, The Negro and Organized Labor, will include in its discussion periods leading Negro and white trade unionists from the Federal Workers' Union, SCMWA, the Transport Workers' Union, Hotel Front, NMU, etc. Gitel Poznanski is giving an introductory course in Anthropology. Negro History has proven so popular that a new section has been added with Earl Conrad of PM, and author of Harriet Tubman, as instructor.

Courses are organized frequently because of community demands, and stress is put upon the practical experience of the instructors as well as on their academic backgrounds. Dr. Dokey Wilkerson, Executive Editor of the Peoples' Voice is giving a course, Current Events Discussion, and Juan Antonio Corretjer, editor of Pueblos Hispanos, is teaching a similar course conducted in Spanish.

In line with its program of education for racial unity, the school is offering several opportunities for increased knowledge of people with varied racial and national backgrounds. These include Race Relations, given by Thelma Dale of the National Negro Congress. The West Indian People, discussed by Herman Osborne of the West Indies National Council and others with rich experience in the field; and The World Is Smaller Than You Think with guest lecturers including Dr. Alphaeus Hunton, Frederick V. Field and Jesus Colon.

During the first year of the Carver School 1,894 people attended its classes, lectures and special events held in the school. An additional 2,500 people attended the "I Am an American Day" meeting in May and the presentation of Howard Fast in a discussion of his novel, Freedom Road. 10-2-44

The school is being built by the community and its members who enroll as students, for people who register immediately want to become "Carver School Builders."

Registration for classes will continue for two weeks and the tuition is $3.00 for a twelve weeks course. The George Washington Carver School is located at 57 West 125th St.

Youths Score Racism At Welfare Conference

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
3-25-44

(PHOTO ON PAGE 9)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A tall, gangling sophomore from Morehouse college in Atlanta, Georgia, and a pretty Negro high school girl from Detroit held an audience of more than one hundred experts in child welfare from all parts of the country spellbound, here last Friday, as they simply and effectively exposed the whole jim-crow system confronting Negro youth in America.

The two spokesmen for Negro youth were A. Thomas Sutton, 1208 North West 5th avenue, Miami, Fla., and Geraldine Bledsoe, 435 King street, Detroit, Mich. They were two of the 12 boys and girls, including nine whites and one Chinese, who took part in a panel discussion on "Next Steps in Planning for Children and Youth," at the 1944 meeting of the Children's Bureau (U. S. Department of Labor) Commission on Children in War-Time.

Miss Bledsoe urged more technical training for Negro youth. She told of the race riots in Detroit and asked for the education of parents on racial tolerance.

BITTERLY SCORES RACE PREJUDICE 3-25-44

Obviously shy as he sat on the platform before outstanding experts on youth problems, Sutton listened for half an hour or more to white youth discuss lack of recreation, poor health facilities, the growing number of youths leaving high school in war-time before saying anything. Then, as if welled up with intense feeling, he broke into a torrent of words about conditions among Negro youth that brought tears of the eyes of many a hard-boiled social worker present.

Said Sutton: "I've heard talk of inadequate recreation. But I haven't seen any recreation. I haven't seen any health facilities. All I've seen is segregation and discrimination. I've seen Negroes working in the lowest paid jobs, living in the worst houses. I've seen my people crushed politically, kept in their place socially. Moving, moving, like a submarine without a periscope. I have seen the law crack down on Negro kids. I've worked since I was 12 years old. Worked and worked until I feel it in my body and begin to wonder if I should keep trying to break through all the prejudice to become the doctor I want to be. It seems to me that the whole jim-crow system is corrupt from the very bottom. And I want to know if every individual has to struggle and struggle like the Negro youth does."

FDR GREETS DELEGATES

Earlier the youth had been guests of President Roosevelt at the White House, where they were photographed with him as he signed the annual Child Health Day Proclamation. 3-25-44

The two-day sessions ended with election of Dr. Charles S. Johnson, of Fisk university, and President Albert W. Dent, of Dillard uni-

ways and means of meeting these and the present problems through planning today for tomorrow. 3-18-44

"BETTER HOMES"

Mrs. M. E. Hunter, principal speaker on the "Better Homes" panel Thursday morning, emphasized the need of planning at present for future needs. She cited an instance of how she had taken a group of home economics girls and ploughed through snow to meet the needs of a

Negro Organization Society Holds Successful 32nd Annual Session

Journal & Guide—Norfolk, Va.
11-18-44

BEDFORD, Va.—The thirty-second annual session of the Negro Organization Society of Virginia closed a successful meeting here Friday night, Nov. 10, at Washington Street Baptist Church.

During the three-day session which began Wednesday afternoon discussions centered upon such topics as the development of better business, post-war problems, farm and home, family relationships, good health, civic participation, better schools, accident prevention on farms, interracial relationships, OPA ceilings and economic security.

MR. WHIEE

DR. PENN PRESIDING

Presiding at the opening session was Dr. H. T. Penn, of Roanoke, acting chairman of the "Better Business" panel. Principal speaker was H. A. M. Johns, supervisor of the Lynchburg district of the Virginia Mutual Life Insurance, who urged business men to instill in their children the ambition to learn and to carry on the enterprises built by their fathers.

Mr. Johns emphasized the need of better training in the business field and urged Negroes to train to be able to conduct any phase of business in a competitive manner.

OPA CEILINGS 11-18-44

Stressing the importance of becoming acquainted with OPA ceiling prices, Miss Grace L. Lyle, mayor of Bedford City, spoke of the high regard he had for the memory of the late Booker T. Washington and made by Lawyer T. C. Walker, officer of the Richmond District OPA, in his praise of the efforts of Negro soldiers in the declared that present world conflict.

Alice Thornhill and Dr. L. A. Delivering the welcome address Wednesday night, Dr. W. Pogue, after being presented by Miss Lyle, spoke of Mrs. Susie F. Gibson, Matthews, who was presiding. Response was made by Lawyer T. C. Walker, chairman of the Gloucester, chairman of the George W. Carver, and was loud of the noteworthy NOS executive board, following which he presented Dr. Lorenzo C. Booker T. Washington Institute, in the only president of the society.

OTHER GREETINGS

Warm greetings on behalf of the White of Hampton protection against possible overcharges. the city were made by Superintendent A. A. Cummings. Discussing early post-war problems, Mr. White suggested that the price list

MR. COOPER

farm home made desolate by fire. Presiding was Miss Lizzie Jenkins, chairman of the panel.

Mrs. Lelia Calfee Adkinson, supervisor of home demonstration in Bedford, stressed the importance of family relationships

"BETTER HEALTH"

Dr. Morgan E. Norris, chairman of the "Better Health" panel, presented Dr. Fred D. Morton of the State Board of Health in the afternoon. Dr. Morton gave a demonstration on the necessity of good teeth, and an all-round healthy body in order to lay the foundation for a full and well-founded life. 11-18-44

With William M. Cooper, executive secretary, presiding Thursday night, Wiley A. Hall, chairman of "Better Jobs" panel, pointed out that Negroes have better and more jobs than ever before, but deplored the tendency among the race to spend money for non-essentials.

Mr. Hall said that Negro farmers and laborers had laid the early foundation for better jobs, but in the field of education, had invariably urged their children to become professional workers.

SKILLED WORKERS

Consequently, he asserted, when the exigencies of the war demanded skilled industrial workers, the race was not prepared to provide them.

Jobs in the post-war world, he said, will depend upon our training to fill them, and achievement will be the result of a willingness to work hard. Mr. Hall mentioned the importance of continued efforts on the part of the FEPC.

DR. L. P. JACKSON

Dr. Luther P. Jackson, professor of history, Virginia State College, chairman of the "Better Civic Participation" group, stressed the importance of voting. He had procured a list of all the citizens who were registered as voters in Bedford county, pointing out that only 12 Negroes were on the list. Explaining that Halifax county ranks highest in registered Negro voters, Dr. Jackson urged every citizen to become a qualified voter. 11-18-44

The field secretary, Mrs. Marion C. Johnson, gave a report of the activities for the year. She stated that twenty-six counties had been organized with 49 N. O. S. Councils and that the people were becoming more conscious of the work of the society.

TROPHIES AWARDED

N. O. S. trophies were awarded by Curtis Crocker to the following counties: Prince William, R. R. Moton trophy for the best all around activities; Fauquier, Better Schools; Halifax, Better Civics Participation; Mecklenburg, Better Business; Accomac, Better Jobs; King and Queen, Better Homes; Caroline Better Farms; Essex, Better Health.

Friday morning John L. Charity, "Better Farms," chairman, presented J. A. Oliver, Princess Anne College, Md. Mr. Oliver brought out points on "Tomorrow's Need in Food Production," by citing statistics on farm life. He stated that in 1870, 94 percent of the people were on farms. At the present time the farmer has done a good job of producing enough food and fibre for the country and the Allies. Mr. Oliver advised the farmers that now was the best time to pay all debts, and care should be taken in making new debts. 11-18-44

"SAFETY ON THE FARM"

Wilbur O'Bryne of Blacksburg, talked on "Safety on the Farm," and admonished farmers against letting children ride on tractors and motor driven implements. Mr. O'Bryne stated that the way to better farming was more farm land. He urged the farmers to take pride in the soil, to improve it, and to beautify their homes. Mr. O'Byrne mentioned the fact that V.P.I. owned 36 square miles of land. He stated that the Negro had made rapid progress in home ownership.

"BETTER SCHOOLS"

Miss India Hamilton, chairman of "Better Schools," held a very lively panel discussion on "Tasks and Outlook for Education in Virginia." The participants, Dr. Fred M. Alexander, Dr. Edna Colson, Dr. Charles W. Florence, J. Rupert Picott, Dr. J. Blair Buck, Mr. L. C. White, Mr. A. G. Macklin, Dr. Harry W. Roberts and Mrs. Mary F. Watkins brought out some very interesting points on education.

Dr. Colson touched on the need for social security for the child. The home, school and church must all work together in order to bring about this feeling of social security that every child needs, she said. She gave statistics citing that of the 145,000 school children, 50,000 were out of school, 29,000 in the first grade 4,000 dropped out of school and only 8,000 in high school.

Dr. Florence mentioned the fact that education cannot flourish or exist in the absence of economic conditions. He urged that people use their influence to get the groups to vote, see that every soldier gets training and be urged to vote. Education has become a National responsibility and not a local one. Dr. Buck commended the Jeanes Supervisors as leaders in their communities and stated that the leadership given by them was a tie up between the school and the home. Social objectives were needed more now than ever before. Mrs. Watkins stressed the need of an adequate health program. Dr. Roberts gave his viewpoint from a sociological angle. Mr. Macklin and Mr. White had quite an interesting debate on the human being and his status. Dr. Alexander, chairman of the discussion, summed up the panel in a brief and concise way.

President L. C. White presided Friday night, bringing to attention the highlights of the society and presenting the speaker of the evening. 11-18-44

INTERRACIAL RELATIONSHIP

Dr. Ira Reid, of Atlanta University, talked on interracial relationship and stated how each war had brought about changes in this relationship.

He urged the Negro to have faith in himself and to be true to his integrity, in order that he may have real success.

Dr. Alexander, state department of education, spoke on "The Long View." He deplored the lack of understanding on the side of both groups. He stated that the Negroes must redouble their efforts and take advantage of every opportunity. It is the surest way of proving the worth of a people.

Mr. Picott made a presentation to Mrs. Susie F. Gibson on behalf of the Negro Organization Society.

The Society will meet in Roanoke, in November, 1945.

Social Forces Council Will Foster Interest In Afflicted Children

News—Birmingham, Ala. 12-14-44

Stimulation of interest in providing facilities for caring for mentally deficient Negro children and other facilities to care for tubercular children under 12 years, the establishment of an ear clinic for children and more widespread dissemination of information regarding the control of cancer are new activities adopted for the year by the health committee of the Jefferson County Coordinating Council of Social Forces.

The new interests of the committee were outlined by its chairman, Clyde Sibley, at a meeting of the executive board of the coordinating council Wednesday at the Ridgely. He stated that his group would continue its interest in such features as the erection of a Negro hospital, hospitalization for communicable disease, but that in many such instances it was believed the problems would be solved with the establishment of the new medical center in Birmingham.

Dr. I. R. Obenchain, reporting for the delinquency committee, stated that his group in cooperation with Mrs. Mary Doneroo Durham, director, Youth Protective Association, had been studying means of strengthening the home. The general theme was considered from eight different angles, such as family relationships, health, religion, etc., and that a speakers' bureau of authorities on each of the subjects had been organized for use by organizations. 12-14-44

Mrs. Durham was elected to fill the vacancy on the executive board created by the resignation of Mr Bessie Jones, secretary.

F. M. M. Richardson, chairman of the council, conducted the meeting.

Southern Governors Organize To Develop Possibilities Of Area

Birmingham News 12-27-44

BILOXI, Miss.—(AP)—Governors of nine Southern states and officials of two others had returned to their homes Monday after a conference here in which they agreed to organize for study of mutual problems of education, postwar planning, employment of veterans and conservation of natural resources and "natural talent."

Number one committee of the Southern governors' conference announced Sunday by Gov. Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma, newly-elected chairman, was "to conduct a complete study of the South's educational problems" with the announced objective of attaining "equalization of educational opportunities for all."

Included on the committee were Gov. Sparks, of Alabama, new conference vice chairman; Gov. Colgate Darden, of Virginia, and Gov. Thomas L. Bailey, of Mississippi.

* * *

GOV. PRENTICE COOPER, of Tennessee, retiring chairman, introduced the education objective to the group but credited its authorship to Gov. Darden. He said Gov. Darden, unable to attend the conference, proposed a state exchange scholarship plan to make available to worthy Negro students specialized subjects not offered in their own states.

Cooper and Former Gov. Dixon, of Alabama, were praised for their part in the freight rate fight by Gov. J. Melville Broughton of North Carolina.

Other problems discussed and which Kerr said would be studied by special committees included: conservation of wildlife, water power and mineral resources and "natural talent," which he said was abundant in the South but was being attracted to other sections of the country which offered greater opportunity.

* * *

KERR AND OTHER SPEAKERS at the convention expressed the belief that war-built industries and transportation facilities in the South would be retained after the war to give the section "its rightful place in the national economy," raise standards of living, provide employment for returning service men and women, make the South "strong in agriculture, manufacturing, transportation and commerce to foreign ports," especially via the airports and sea ports of Latin-America.

States represented at the three-day conference were Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, Florida, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee. Texas and South Carolina representatives of the conference did not attend the session.

AID IN EDUCATION FOR ALL IS PLEA

Birmingham Age-Herald 11-28-44

BILOXI, Miss., Nov. 26—(AP)—Gov. Robert S. Kerr, of Oklahoma, said Sunday that "equalization of educational opportunities for all citizens of the South" had been named "No. 1 objective" of the Southern Governors Conference.

Kerr, newly elected chairman of the conference which ended a three-day session here Sunday, said in an interview that a committee was appointed in executive session Saturday night to conduct "a complete study of the South's educational problems."

Included on the committee, he said, were Gov. Chauncey Sparks, of Alabama, whose election as conference vice chairman was announced by Kerr; Gov. Colgate Darden, of Virginia, and Gov. Thomas L. Bailey, of Mississippi.

Pushing Of Plan Asked

Gov. Darden, represented at the conference by Lt. Gov. William Tuck, had been credited by Gov. Prentice Cooper, of Tennessee, as being author of an educational plan for Southern Negroes "which should receive most earnest consideration of this conference."

Cooper, retiring conference chairman, said Darden proposed that Southern states offer exchange scholarships for outstanding Negro students to attend Negro universities in other states. This plan, he said, would make it possible for students of a state whose facilities for training in certain specific fields were limited to attend a school which offered the courses the student wanted.

Gov. J. Melville Broughton, of North Carolina, in a speech before the conference Saturday, urged "equal opportunity" for all Americans. 11-28-44

Cooper, Dixon Praised

Paying tribute to Gov. Cooper and former Gov. Frank Dixon, of Alabama, for their part in the South's fight "against unjust rail freights rates," Broughton said:

"I believe it is the only hope of America to have equal opportunity for all. I believe that all the peoples of this nation should be given equal opportunities, whether he be white or black. God Almighty intended it to be that way."

Gov. Kerr also said Sunday he would seek early action on his keynote proposal for creation of a Southwide agricultural and industrial planning commission composed of one member from each of the 13 states in the conference.

The governors left late Sunday after a visit to the Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation at Pascagoula and to historic spots on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

66b-1944

Georgia

Youth Center Opens Monday At 668 Fair Street, S. W.

Under Auspices of University, John Hope Homes

A Youth Center is being opened on Monday, November 20, at 668 Fair Street, S. W., at 6:30 p. m., under the auspices of the Recreation Department of the University Homes and John Hope Homes. This Center is another step forward in the program of these housing projects to give proper recreation to the youths of this area.

The purpose of the Youth Center is to promote and develop varied athletics, dramatics, social, civic and neighborhood programs in order to develop community neighborhoods and good citizenship. It will be governed by the Youth Center Council.

The Youth Center Council is composed of the following persons: Director Mrs. Ethel L. Harvey; Director of Boys' Activities, Mr. T. J. Crittenden; the Advisory Board, consisting of the University and John Hope Homes Tenants' Council; the Junior Council and the officers of the Youth Center.

CENTER OFFICERS

The officers of the Youth Center are President, Curtis Jewell; First Vice President, Herbert Briley; second vice President, Sallie Arnold, Secretary, Elaine Bush and Treasurer, Robert Hunt.

The committees which have been appointed are : Civic Affaris--Eddie Brown and Lois Johnson; Entertainment--Rosa Taylor, Ehtel Harris, Helen Tiller, Herman Alexander, Elain Bush, Forrest Ellison and Sallie Arnold. Games--Walter Holt, Robert Hunt, Curtis Jewell and Herman Alexander. Publicity--Elain Bush, Forrest Ellison, Walter Holt, Rosa Taylor, ////// and Lois Johnson.

The Community Youth Center offers a program of diversified activities. The boys and girls will have an opportunity to participate in hand craft, sewing, cooking bridge, table tennis, citizenship, checkers, glee clubs, concerts, community songs, boxing, reducing, out-of-door basketball, movies, modeling airplanes, puzzle making, folk and social dancing, plays, skits, verse speaking, and social, athletic, forensic and scout club meetings.

There will be a snack bar, social room, a game room and a drop-in room, and an active and quiet game room. Entertainment will be planned by the Entertainment Committee, the hostesses and clerk-hostesses.

The Community Youth Center is being set up on the principles as set forth in its insignia, a square, representing Recreation, Religion, Citizenship and Cooperation.

Atlanta Ga. Daily World 11-16-44

Harlem Housing Improves Under Negro Management

PM 11-26-44

New York, N.Y.

Skeptical Owners Convinced by Better Appearance of Property

Negro management of housing facilities in Harlem has resulted in better living conditions for Negroes at no increase in rentals, Goode R. Harney, secretary of the Urban Housing Management Association, said yesterday.

"The 37 buildings managed by the Association have not only been greatly improved, but have served as an example for the managements of other buildings in the vicinity," Harney, a quietly dressed, soft-spoken man, said.

The Association, which is sponsored by the Urban League, he explained, was organized in December, 1943, to provide home management of Harlem houses. Management of these buildings has been taken over with the approval and cooperation of the owners and the New York City Housing Authority. PM 11-26-44

"We went to work on the theory that management by the people who live in the houses was far better than management by absentee owners who admittedly took little interest in their tenants," he said.

"Some owners were skeptical at first, but the improved appearance of their buildings, plus increased rental returns, soon convinced them."

No major repair work, which would necessitate rental increases, is undertaken, he said. Such minor repairs as laying of kitchen linoleums are made.

Negro managers and maintenance staffs were hired and trained by the Association, he said. The buildings, usually 10-family houses, which were only half rented before the Association took over management, are now almost 100 per cent occupied. The apartments are tenanted by 451 families. N.Y.

"Where building managers were formerly only rent collectors and buffers between tenants and owners," he said, "Negro managers now take an active interest in the welfare of their tenants and act promptly on their complaints."

"We won't take more than 50 buildings," he said, "because we don't want to hog the management in the area or become a big competitive company." New York

The success of the Association's project has had effect on other managements of Harlem buildings, he continued. In order to rent in competition with the Association, he said, they have been forced to clean and repair their buildings.

Clifford L. Alexander is manager of the Association, which has offices at 202-06 W. 136th St. Other officials are Edward S. Lewis, vice-president; Glover Beardsley, president of the Harlem Savings Bank, treasurer; and the following directors: State Assemblyman William T. Andrews; A. Austin; Attorney Edward M. Bratter; John Cahill, president of the City and Surburban Homes Company, and Stephen P. Duggan, Jr., attorney.

3 Million Ok'd for Permanent Federal Housing in S. Baltimore

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.
1-15-44

Housing Officials Promise Removal of the Objectionable Features on Cherry Hill Site

BALTIMORE

Three million dollars has just been approved for construction of a 650-unit permanent housing project on the Cherry Hill site in South Baltimore, housing officials announced on Wednesday.

During a special meeting of the city plan commission, which was attended by Federal housing officials and civic representatives who had opposed use of the Cherry Hill site, the city housing authority promised that the project, when completed, would have every possible feature of advantage.

One of the main objections to this project was its proximity to the city garbage incinerator.

Revealing that experts had been sent to study how the incinerator is controlled in New York City under similar circumstances, Nathan Smith, city engineer, advised the group that the city would be responsible for seeing that the incinerator here would not be disagreeable.

Will Come as Relief to E. Balto.

In answer to complaints that the designated boundaries allowed little room for expansion in that area, Cleveland R. Bealmear, chairman of the Baltimore Housing Authority, pointed out that the 400-acre tract of land is larger than the entire Northwest Baltimore colored community.

He explained that since the colored population lives in various sections of the city, the Cherry Hill site would hardly attract residents from other areas, but would serve to relieve the South Baltimore slum condition.

This sentiment was also expressed by the Rev. F. J. Frye, pastor of John Wesley Methodist Church, who said:

"People in South Baltimore are dying like flies and every month that this project is delayed, they pay with 100 lives."

532 Units Already Approved

E. Lester Muller, white, State director of the Federal Housing Administration, revealed that applications from private builders to erect 532 housing units on the Cherry Hill site had already been approved, while applications for 1302 additional units are under consideration. 1-15-44

Surveyors are still at work on the tract of land intended for the new war housing project and the BHA will meet with city officials on Tuesday to work out the de- of utilities.

In the meantime, construction bids have been opened for the 200-unit temporary war project to be built at Turners Station and for the 400-unit project to be erected at Holabird. No contractors have yet been named.

Another 400-unit temporary project is planned for Zollers Point, where surveyors are now at work. These projects, to be removed shortly after the war ends, are being financed by the eight million dollars appropriated by the National Housing Agency last February.

Newark Housing Authority Backs Interracial Project

Amsterdam News — Newark, N.J.
1-29-44

NEWARK — White landowners opposed to Negroes occupying decent homes, except in a consigned area of the city, are seeking to prevent the erection of the proposed 150-family public housing project here for war workers, it was revealed during the past week.

Taking the stand that they are "opposed to any new federal housing projects in Newark," the Real Estate Board of this city appealed to the Newark Housing Authority Thursday to reject plans for the development. Previously, the all-white Ironbound Manufacturers' Association had registered opposition to the project in their section because it would interfere with the industrial growth of that area. 1-29-44

Both of these organizations, Harold A. Lett, secretary of the N. J. Urban League told an interracial group Thursday afternoon in a meeting at the Board of Education building, against the project because they are opposed to "Negroes having decent housing."

Predicating his assertion on past experiences with the organizations as an Urban League executive and former member of the Newark Housing Authority, Lett said the objection of a group of Negroes to the project because it was designated for race workers was "playing into the hands" of those who want to keep Negroes in the slum-infested Third Ward.

He singled out Albert W. Neuscheler, president of the Ironbound Manufacturers' Association, as one of the chief objectors to Negroes being permitted to live in the Pennington project, which was the first development of the local housing authority. It was only after an intensive fight, Lett said, that the decision was finally made to allot some of the apartments to colored tenants. 1-29-44

Neuscheler was scheduled to be one of the speakers at the meeting, which was called by the Citizens Committee for Interracial Unity, but failed to appear, nor did he send a representative as promised.

After hearing statements from Lorenzo Harris, representing the Negro Welfare Commission; Roger W.Tucker, Negro Affairs, Inc.; Mrs. William Milwitsky, white, and Lett, all of whom expressed objections to the project being labelled "For Negro war workers," the committee authorized a resolution urging the removal of the designation.

Their action, however, it was revealed by Frank Wenrich, white, executive director of the Newark Housing Authority, will not prevent the selection of all Negro tenants for the project, even if the designation is removed by the national housing agency. 1-29-44

He read a statement from Charles Ascher, regional director of the National Housing Agency, which revealed that the allocation was made to Negro war workers because they had been practically excluded from projects erected by private corporations.

It was a suggestion made by Robert Taylor, Negro chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority, which caused federal housing authorities to give consideration to the plight of Negro war workers.

Opposition to the project was first expressed by the Newark Branch NAACP and the Negro Welfare Commission, resulting in representatives of the organizations appealing to the Newark City Commission to reject the offer from the federal government. This stand was later modified when it was pointed out that Negroes needed more housing, and the agreement that the designation of race be removed was accepted as a compromise, though it is likely that the project will be occupied solely by Negroes. 1-29-44

Wenrich, the housing authorities executive director, emphasized that if conditions are the same after the project is completed as they are now, "it is altogether probable that most of the families selected will be Negro. However, if conditions change and we find that there are families of white workers in greater need than families of Negro war workers, then they will be selected."

Surprise at the attitude taken by the two Negro organizations was also expressed by the regional director of the National Housing Agency, who said:

"It seemed to us that we were making a genuine contribution to the war effort in proposing that the project be scheduled in the first instance for badly housed Negroes."

Rejection of the project by Negroes would not only by a blow to the badly housed war workers, Lett contended, "but would constitute a march in the reverse direction of our democratic war aim." 1-29-44

If present plans materialize, the project will be constructed on property at Raymond Boulevard and Chapel Street, which is only a short distance from the numerous defense plants and shipyards.

Improved Housing For Negro Found Sound Business

Special to The New York Times and The Courier-Journal.

Washington, Nov. 14.—Findings indicated that improved housing for Negroes is a sound business operation and that Negro home owners are good economic risks were reported today by the National Association of Real Estate Boards on the basis of a survey made by local real estate boards in eighteen representative cities.

Realtors in the field of Negro housing told the association that as a class the Negro home purchaser meets his obligations faithfully, both as to payments and maintenance of property—often more faithfully that other race groups in the same economic level. As a tenant, the Negro was found to be taking as good care of his establishment as other tenants of his economic class.

Project Ready

ity with that given to other type s of property.

The association also announced that the Realtors' Washington Committee had designated a special sub-committee to head up work on the Negro housing program.

To Open Here

Tribune — Rome, Ga.

The Housing Authority of the City of Rome announces the opening of the Eugene Weaver Homes, newly completed housing project on Division Street, for negro employes engaged in essential war work. 4-23-44

Eligible occupants include those employed at Battey General Hospital, the Fairbanks Company, Inc., Brighton Mills, Inc., at Shannon, Anchor Duck Mills, Pepperell Manufacturing Co., at Lindale, Southern Co-operative Corporation, Tubize Rayon Corporation, and A. D. Juilliard & Co.

The apartments are modern in every detail and are equipped with gas ranges, gas-fired hot water heaters, ice boxes, coal-fired space heaters, built-in kitchen cabinets, spacious pantrys, and

Builders to Erect 22,000 Low Cost Units for Negroes, Whites

Tribune — Washington, D.C.
6-24-44

Plans for 22,000 low rental housing units for both Negro and white tenants are being laid by the Home Builders' Association for construction as soon as priorities on materials become available, it was announced late last week.

The statement was made following a recommendation by the National Association of Real Estate Boards that local boards through the country undertake "undertake programs to provide better housing for Negro families" and came as a result of a study of the Negro housing problems and how the clearance continues in Washington between mortages on Negro property advocates of public and private housing.

Emphasizing that it was not the association recommended must be secured. Reluctance of undertaking to establish any national formula or suggestion as institutions to purchase to location of Negro housing, exclusive use of such housing, or similar matters, the real estate group said "these are problems which must be solved by each community."

Some 20,000 real estate firms and individual realtors are represented in the 600 local boards on hand indicate that the Negro is a good economic risk.

2. Responsible builders should be encouraged to undertake the construction of Negro housing, as the fight on slums both in areas now available and in the form of new neighborhood projects. Federal agencies will comprising the association. It has member boards in forty-six States, but no Negroes are members.

6-24-44

Negro Housing

window shades and door shades. Well-shaded and sunny play areas are located on the project. Apartments range in size from two rooms to five rooms.

Eligible tenants may file application at 717 North Fifth Avenue, but they were advised to obtain from their employes a certification of employment in war industry to present with the application. These forms have been furnished to the employers of eligible tenants, the Housing Authority stated. Rent, ranging from $16 to $23 per month, includes water, electricity for lighting and ironing and gas for hot water heating. 4-23-44

The office of the project on Division Street will be opened later, and the Rev. E. L. Zuber has been employed as management aide for this project. He has already assumed his duties. The Rev. Zuber, Pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, was born and reared in Rome, and has taken a leading role on colored committees working in civic and community campaigns.

The new project is to be operated by the local Housing Authority under lease from the Federal Public Housing Authority.

N.Y. Housing Bettered by Colored Management

AFRO-AMERICAN
BALTIMORE, MD.

NEW YORK. — The management of housing facilities in Harlem by colored agencies has resulted in better living conditions for colored people at no increase in rentals, declared Goode R. Harney, secretary of the Urban Housing Management Association, November 25. 12-2-44

The association, which was organized last December under the sponsorship of the Urban League, he said, has by its care of its thirty-seven buildings offered an example to other managing agencies in the city.

Realtors Consider Housing For Negroes

News—Charlotte, N.C.

The Charlotte Real Estate Board today had for its consideration suggestions made by the National Association of Real Estate Boards that local boards over the nation undertake programs to provide better housing for Negroes. 6-14-44

In the communication received by Albert Escott, president of the Charlotte Board, the National Board said "many Negroes who can afford to purchase or rent good housing are unable to do so because it is not provided by the market. The Association is not undertaking to establish any national formula or suggestion as to location of Negro housing, exclusiveness of use of such housing, or similar matters. These are problems which must be solved by each community. "Our task as business men is to find the best economic solution possible under the circumstances that exist," the National Board said, adding, "We will take no part in the social, political or racial issues which are often injected into the discussion of housing for Negroes."

The Association recommended that local real estate boards undertake study of the Negro housing problem and how the economic need may be met in each community. Among the problems to be solved, it said in its communication, are the following: 6-14-44

"1. Adequate financing for homes and rental properties must be secured. Reluctance of financial institutions to purchase mortgages on Negro property must be gradually overcome. Such facts as we now have in hand indicate that the Negro is a good economic risk. We propose to make a detailed study of the experiences of hundreds of our own members who have for years sold property to Negroes or managed Negro rental properties. We will make this information available to Member Boards for their use.

"2. Responsible builders should be encouraged to undertake the construction of Negro housing, both in areas now available and in the form of new neighborhood projects. Federal agencies are keenly interested in this matter and will be found ready and willing to assist. 6-14-44

"3. Management of Negro rental properties should be of a kind and character which is on a parity with that given to other types of property. We believe it will be found that Negroes will respond if given opportunity to avail themselves of facilities and services of modern character."

Great Strides

Atlanta, Ga.

110, 000 Dwellings Soon To Be Total Of Such Occupied

7-28-44

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — When Negroes war workers move into 18,000 homes now being built, more than 110,000 publicly financed dwellings will be occupied by Negroes tenants, Philip M. Klutznick, Commissioner of the Federal Public Housing Authority of the National Housing Agency, announced Saturday.

The peacetime, low-rent program carried out principallly by local housing authorities under the United States Housing Act has supplied 46,000 permanently built dwellings to meet the recognized need of Negroes for safe, decent housing. Of the 65,000 war dwellings for essential Negro war workers, 24,000 are or permanent construction. This brings to 70,000 the number of permanent dwellings available to Negro families.

The remaining 41,000 war housing units for Negro occupancy are temporary structures, demountable dwellings, conversions, trailers and other stop-gap housing. The scarcity of critical materials, which necessitated the suspension of the low-rent program early in the war, has required the use of temporary construction in most publicly financed war housing built during the last two years.

"The expansion of our program of providing housing for the growing numbers of Negro war workers has been achieved in the face of material shortages and site selection difficulties," the commissioner said. 7-28-44

Negro tenants are already living in some 400 public housing projects in 225 localities of 40 States and the District of Columbia.

"We are endeavoring to see to it that every American on the production line is as adequately housed as our limited materials will permit. Good housing means heightened moral and increased war production," Mr. Klutznick said.

Negro Zone Given OK By Planners

Herald, Miami, Fla.
July 11, 1944

Board Recommends City Commission Approve Housing Project In Grove

By JACK THALE
Herald Staff Writer

Miami planning board flashed a green light Monday for the proposed Coconut Grove negro housing project which has aroused bitter protest from neighboring white residents.

The approval was restriction-hedged, however.

The decision was announced at the end of a special session called Monday night, just a week after a tumultuous public hearing in which spokesmen for scores of protesting white residents asserted that the project initiated by Fred Howland, local contractor, would depreciate property values in the fashionable white section nearby, and would be of no great benefit to the negroes.

The vote was 7 to 1.

The board's decision was in the form of a recommendation to the city commission, which is the final authority on changes in zoning and anti-project forces were expected to carry their fight on to the commission.

50 UNITS PLANNED

Howland had asked that the project site, a 20-acre area at Douglas rd. and Thomas ave., now zoned partly for two-family residences and liberal business, be changed to a multiple family, or apartment zone. He said the project called for the construction of 50 masonry duplex dwellings to house negro war workers.

The planning board declined to zone the area for apartment use, but recommended that it be zoned for two-family use, which would allow construction of the units such as Howland proposed.

It also specified that an eight-foot concrete wall should be constructed on the back edge of the property adjoining the white section, and that a 74-foot buffer strip should be cleared, beautified and maintained at the expense of the project owners beyond the masonry wall.

It limited the type of construction within the area to masonry, and specified that streets in the project should open only onto Thomas ave., which is in the present negro district.

Public-Financed Housing Shows Great Strides

World—Memphis, Tenn.
8-1-44

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Public-Financed Housing Shows

Daily World

Chi. Southside Has Increased Housing Units

Amsterdam News
New York N.Y.

Reconverted Buildings Will Supply Answer To Overcrowded Conditions

CHICAGO, (ANP) — Abandoned warehouse and garages on Chicago's South Side were recently converted into living quarters which will supply a total quota of 400 apartment houses, the National Housing Agency announced last week. Tenants are expected to occupy these projects in the next few weeks. 11-25-44

One reconstructed warehouse was converted into two and three rooms and received a token payment of $1 per apartments at a cost of $78,000. The year will regain full possession of 22 modern apartments will rent their property together with the at from $35 to $42 per month. government improvements at the An abandoned garage was made end of the lease. into an 11 unit building while another warehouse was converted into 58 modern apartments. An old temple made 105 apartments. Repair work on these buildings was done by the government, which leased the buildings from their owners at a period ranging from seven to 12 years. Property owners who re-

A 72-HOUR EMERGENCY GREW INTO YEARS

'Shelter' Houses a Lesson in Squalor

BY JAMES S. POOLER
Free Press Staff Writer

Roosevelt Browder, 10 years old, leaned up against an abandoned school building at 2238 Rivard Thursday as if trying to keep it from collapsing.

Earlier in the day the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People had written to the Mayor, the Health Commissioner, the Housing Commission and others to point out the plight of 18 colored families jammed into that schoolhouse with several thousand assorted bedbugs and cockroaches.

They were supposed to be there for only 72 hours—there are no baththubs—but many families have been there for more than two years.

* * *

"IS THIS 'The Shelter?', Roosevelt was asked.

"I dunno," the boy named for the President who had pointed out that one-third of the nation is ill-housed, answered. "That ain't what we folks call it." The point was not pressed.

Roosevelt led a tour. Because there are no locks on the one-time classrooms and closets where families numbering as many as eight are jammed, he barged in on war workers trying to sleep, mothers nursing babies and groups eating in relays at tables the size of fruit crates.

* * *

THERE WAS Mrs. Mose Harvey, with five children and her husband, a stove, two cots, a sink, clotheslines, chairs and other addenda of living. They were packed into what looked like a cloakroom in the years when the school still was fit for children.

"We came here for 72 hours so they could find us a house," Mrs. Harvey said. "That was two years ago last June."

She nodded to a six-month-old boy and a two-year-old girl sleeping fitfully on one of the cots. "The worst was bringing my last two babies home from the hospital to this place. I don't know how they stayed on alive."

* * *

SHE WAS USING a blanket for a shade over the one window. A pane was broken and smoke from an incinerator poured in.

"We got rats big as cats here," put in Roosevelt, "and bugs I can't call the name of."

Free Press Photo

MRS. MOSES HARVEY AND CHILDREN
School cloakroom is home for family of seven

But Roosevelt had other things to show. He roused Thomas Spillman Bey, who tries to sleep days so he can work in a war plant nights.

* * *

OUT OF the halls they gathered in Bey's six children. There was room enough to group the six at one end of the cluttered one-room bedroom, living room, kitchen, etc.

Bey, worn out from hard work, trying to sleep and, perhaps, moving from six different homes during the past two years before landing at "The Shelter," calmly began snoring in the middle of the uproar.

"It ain't decent," was the one remark he got off before his eyes closed on him.

* * *

THE N.A.A.C.P. had pointed out to the city officials that none of these families were on welfare and that many, like Bey, were war workers.

The other 16 families are living in equally squalid conditions and sharing the toilet facilities in the old school's basement.

Because the rooms are so small, Roosevelt said his family had been broken into two sections and "half of us live here."

* * *

OTHER FAMILIES said they had farmed out some of their more sickly children, who could not stand up under the squalor, uproar and crowding.

Most families, because of the limit on cots for each room, sleep in relays. In one room a Negro girl about high school age was trying to study—unsuccessfully.

When the reporter and photographer left, Roosevelt took up his post outside the building. He was a bright little boy. He seemed to know the best spot at "The Shelter."

Met Project in Harlem Welcomed by Davis

By BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR.

The newly-announced housing project which is to be built in Harlem by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is a welcome step in the direction of clearing away the slums of the community and providing better housing for the people.

It is to be hoped that the proposed rental of $12.50 a room will be substantially reduced so that the lowest-income groups who need first-rate housing most urgently can be accommodated.

BENJ. DAVIS, JR.

The anti-discriminatory housing law recently enacted by the city, provides guarantees against any racial or religious discrimination whatsoever in this or any other similar project. I am proud to have been associated with Councilman Stanley Isaacs in introducing the first such bill in the City Council and to have urged jointly with him, Councilman Cacchione and others, in and out of the Council, the fight which led to the enactment of this law.

No doubt the fight which we conducted, influenced, to some degree, the building of a project by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, whose tenancy would be open from the very beginning to Negroes as to all other citizens.

However, the building of a housing project in Harlem cannot be accepted as a substitute for the Metropolitan's proposed Stuyvesant Town, in the center of the city, from which Negroes have been publicly barred, and which has other objectionable features. The fight against jim-crow in Stuyvesant Town continues until Jimcrow is completely wiped out. Vital to the solution of the housing problem in Harlem is not only the building of decent low-cost apartments, but also that Negroes shall be able to exercise their democratic right to live anywhere in the city, as any other citizen can.

Underprivileged slum communities in our city—especially Harlem—are so badly in need of decent housing, that private as well as public funds should be encouraged and made increasingly available for the purpose of constructing healthful non-discriminatory apartments to accommodate all citizens, irrespective of race, color or creed.

$3,000,000 Project Aims to Aid Negroes

'Balloon Type' Structures Lack Water, Sewer and Other Facilities

Uncle Sam is planning to move 1,000 temporary dwellings here from other war centers at a $3,000,000 cost to supplement housing facilities for Negro families.

The average $3,000 cost of moving the frail "balloon type" structures will approach closely that of new construction, without water, sewer and other services and out-fall of a 160-acre Negro community lay for landscaping.

* * *

Plans are being drawn for a 32 to thirty-four-room school for the community.

* * *

Private development has been delayed by difficulties in obtaining possession of 43 scattered premises already occupied as Negro dwellings. In some instances these dwellings have been shifted to new sites.

Regional FPHA offices announced that bids opened Monday for purchases of sites for commercial development are being studied.

* * *

PRIVATE OWNERS are contemplated for a drug store, variety store, super market, medical and dental clinics, including an eye, ear,

* * *

The new settlement, bounded by Scotia Road, North End, Wyoming and Eight Mile, includes part of the site which the City once sought for airport development.

* * *

THE HOUSING project will provide 150 units, Mid-land 100 and Willow Run 225.

* * *

FPHA OFFICES in Cleveland, Bay City will provide 150 units, Mid-land 100 and Willow Run 225.

* * *

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY has acquired 114 acres by purchase and has leased the remaining 40 acres.

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* * *

STANLEY WOLF, INC., of Fremont, O., will be paid $1,319,000 to move 475 dwellings from Bay City, Midland and Willow Run in a contract being prepared by the FPHA

Permit Issued for Negro Project to Cost $450,000

Tribune — Washington, D. C.
11-11-44

Permits for the construction of 176-family units in eleven 2-story apartment buildings, to provide homes for more than 500 Negroes and cost $450,000, have been issued by the District Government to the George Washington Carver Apartments, Inc., it has just been announced.

According to George L. Dyer, treasurer of the corporation, work on the project will start immediately.

Brick-and cinder structures will be built on undeveloped land in the 4800 and 4900 blocks of East Capitol Street and on nearby Forty-seventh and Forty-ninth Streets, S.E.

According to Mr. Dyer, play areas will be provided and the apartments will be of the garden type. Jeffress-Dyer, Inc., is the builder, and the architects are Kirkhuff and Bagley.

11-11-44

The District government also issued a permit to the Bangor Development Company, Inc., for construction of a 3-story apartment house in the 2400 block of Bryan Place, S.E. The project is to have twelve units and cost $35,000.

Realty Survey Finds Negroes Good Risks as Home Owners

PM's New York, N.Y.
11-15-44

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15. — Good housing for Negroes is a sound business operation and a Negro family is a good economic risk, the National Assn. of Real Estate Boards reported today after a nationwide survey.
11-15-44

Members of the Association with experience in Negro housing reported that as a class the Negro home buyer meets his payments faithfully, often more promptly than other groups in the same economic level, and that if his property is in good condition when he moves in, he takes care of it after he buys it. As a tenant, he takes as good care of such premises as other tenants with the same amount of income.

These findings are extraordinarily signficant because the group which made the survey, the Association is one of the most reactionary organizations in the country.
PM 11-15-44

The Association, frankly acting as a matter of business, recently launched a move to encourage better housing for Negroes throughout the U. S. A. and urged real estate boards to work out local programs to push interest in good Negro housing among builders and financing institutions.
New York, N.Y.

The report said a majority of the realtors with Negro housing experience were insistent that there is no reason why insurance companies should not purchase mortgages on property to be occupied by Negroes.

The Association's study was made in 18 representative cities. In addition, the semi-annual survey of the realtors showed 147 cities out of 330—42 per cent— as in pressing need of better Negro housing. It reported that 51 per cent of these 147 cities have action underway to remedy the situation.

The general opinion of local real estate boards, as reported by the Association is as follows:

¶ Seventeen out of 18 cities answered "yes" to the question: "Does the Negro make a good home buyer and carry through his purchase to completion?"
11-15-44

¶ Thirteen out of 18 answered "yes" to the question: "Does he take care of his property if it is in good repair when he obtained it?"

¶ Eleven out of 18 answered "yes" to the question: "Does he take as good care of property as other tenants of comparable status?"

¶ Three fourths said "no" to the question: "Do you know of any reason why the great insurance companies . . . should not freely purchase mortgages on homes and rented buildings to be occupied by Negroes?"

¶ Two-thirds said "yes" to: "Do you think there is good opportunity for the realtors in the Negro housing field in your city?"

The association also reported the encouraging fact that some correspondents of insurance companies have offered to take FHA loans and finance all the privately built, owned or operated housing projects that the realtors can offer.

Whites Try New Tricks To Bar Negro Housing

Tribune — Savannah, Ga.
11-9-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) — Professing a deep seated concern for the health of the prospective Negro residents of a housing project being constructed n northeastern part of Washington, the residents in the area have petitioned the House District Committee and President Roosevelt to bring about its abandonment by the Federal Public Housing Authority. The petitioners declare the project " may constitute a serious health hazard within itself and to the surrounding community."
11-9-44

The apparent concern for the health of the Negroes for whom the houses are proposed is viewed with suspicion, however, because of the other ruses used to oppose and thwart the construction of Negro housing in new areas adjacent to white neighborhoods. The zoning board just recently has overruled an attempt to prohibit the construction of a project for Negroes on a technicality regarding building materials whereas the real reason behind the objection was race

In the petition to the President and to Congress, it is stated, we note particularly that the site of this project is on land reclaimed by the filling of a swamp, that the general area is low and partly covered by standing water after heavy rains, and that it is immediately adjacent to, and all of it lies below the level of the Mount Olivet cemetery from which it receives surface drainage."
11-9-44

In a letter to the district commissioners concerning the same project, the president of a citizens' association said,, "We do oppose housing of the worthy underprivileged....but we join with the petitioners in protest of this or any other project likely to jeopardize the health of any group of people."
11-9-44

No where is the suggestion made that adequate drainage facilities be included in the construction plans in order to safeguard the health of the occupants against such hazards as are claimed to exist. The only proposal made is that the houses not be constructed.

A spokesman for the National Housing Agency said the project is part of a program started about two months ago to provide 380 temporary units in various places here for colored workers.

Harlem to Get New Housing

PM — New York, N.Y.
9-18-44

Metropolitan Life Will Build Project After War

Frederick H. Ecker, chairman of the board of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., announced today that the company after the war, would build a 12-acre, park-like residential community in Harlem, to be known as Riverton. It will extend from 135th to 138th Sts., and from Fifth Ave. to the Harlem River. It will house 1200 families.

The development is the first large tax-exempt housing project to be announced since passage by the City Council of an anti-discrimination measure making it unlawful to bar tenants because of race color or creed. In addition, such discriminatory practices will deprive low-rent projects of tax exemption.
9-18-44

Mayor La Guradia, in his broadcast yesterday, congratulated Ecker on completion of negotiations to acquire the land in the Harlem area.

Ecker said a suburban atmosphere was being planned for the community which will be like Stuyvesant Town, also being developed by Metropolitan.

Riverton's residential buildings will accommodate about 3400 persons and will occupy about 25 per cent of the land. The greater part of the property will be landscaped. The apartments will be like those being planned for Stuyvesant Town (for whites only) and most of the windows will overlook the river.

Ecker said:
9-18-44

"Riverton and Stuyvesant Town represent the first use of private capital for the rebuilding of obsolete city areas under the Redevelop-

ment Companies Law which has been described by the Court of Appeals as 'an effort by the Legislature to promote co-operation between municipal government and private capital, to the end that substandard, insanitary areas in our urban communities may be rehabilitated.'"

Negroes Live in Slums Despite Projects
400 Govt
Nashville, Tenn. 8-4-44

Approximately 4,000 permanently demountables, convertibles, trailers, built dwellings were provided under the United States Housing Act for 24,000 war dwellings also permanent nature have become temporary nature making a total of 28,000 are 4,000 war housing units ing authority of the National Hous of a temporar

NEGRO HOUSING PROJECT READY FOR OCCUPANCY

Sheffield (Ala.) Standard & Times
Feb. 4, 1944

Metals Terrace Located At Listerhill For Benefit Shoals' War Workers

War Housing Project Ala-1213 for negro occupancy, erected by the National Housing Agency . . . Federal Public Housing Authority . . . Herbert Emmerich, commisisoner, consisting of 200 dwelling units, a community building and commercial center, located on Sparkman Boulevard across from Reynolds Metals company at Listerhill, was turned over to the Tennessee Valley Authority for management, Feb. 1, according to Raymond C. Condon, project engineer.

The project is built on 32 acres of land, laid out into an attractive park village, complete with paved drives, sidewalks, parking lots, athletic fields, victory gardens, etc. A complete sewerage, water and electric system has been installed.

There are in all, 38 buildings, 36 of which are dwelling units, a community center and a commercial center.

The dwelling units consist of four types of buildings, containing four, six and eight units, totaling 200, divided as follows: 20 no bed room units . . . 60 one bed room units . . . 80 two bed room units . . . and 40 three bed room units Each unit contains kitchen-dinet, living room and bath. The kitchens are equipped with two-compartment sinks and cabinets, stream lined coal range, hot water tank, refrigerator (50 pounds of ice) cabinets, etc. Living rooms are provided with book shelves and cloth closets, as well as all bed rooms.

All of the buildings are built of local victory cement blocks . . . water proofed, making the buildings practically fire-proof, sound-proof and permanent, and was more economical than any other type of construction. All buildings are insulated against heat and cold. Nothing has been omitted, even down to clothes lines, etc., that would add to the convenience and comfort of the war workers. Space heaters are furnished throughout for heating, similar to the warm morning stoves.

Located at main entrance to the village on Sparkman boulevard, is commercial center, which includes a general store, cafe, butcher shop and two chair barber shop.

In the center of the project is located the community center. This building contains large lobby, general office, private office, work shop, clinic, furnace and coal room, kitchen, a large community hall, and childrens' play room, with isolation ward and office. The main building is 36' x 90' with play room ell 24' x 36'. On the outside a play area 33' by 55 feet is provided.

Actual work started on the project by the contractors, Hardin and Ramsey, of Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 24, last year. The project completed represents a cost of approximately $450,000, and is considered one of the most attractive and well built projects built for temporary war housing.

Harry J. Frahn, of Sheffield, is the architect-engineer for the project.

The manager for the project will be on the job and will open an office in the barber shop of commercial center for the convenience of war workers who are interested in seeing the dwelling units and leasing the same.

HUNDRED NEGRO FAMILIES FACE LOSS OF HOMES

Tampa, Fla., Tribune
March 16, 1944

Negro families living in 100 houses that must be moved to make way for the new Negro housing project, at Lake avenue and 22nd street, yesterday were wondering what would happen to them as they saw their houses sold from under them or torn down because they were too dilapidated to move.

The houses must be moved by the March 20 deadline. After that the government will move the houses at the expense of the owner, and not guarantee the condition they are when they settle down.

Up until yesterday only two owners of the Negro houses had started to work moving the dwellings. Benjamin Haimovitz, president of the Belmont Lumber company and owner of about 18 Negro houses, is moving his tenants to new locations along Buffalo avenue, near 30th street.

An agent for Haimovitz said he was trying to save the houses for his best tenants, but some were being sold and others were too bulky to move. Several houses have been sawed in two and moved in sections.

Meanwhile Negro tenants lived from day to day, wondering if they will have a home after the deadline. They are losing houses that cannot be moved and also losing some that are being moved to white sections of the city, to be remodeled.

Buying Spree

Some Negroes, in the hope of buying a house cheap, have been making offers for the houses to be set down in a lot they have bought.

One Negro man walked up to the owner of a house, sitting on a trailer truck, and asked what it would sell for as it stood. The owner replied: "$700 just as she is and hurry up and take it if you want it, because we are about to set it down."

The Negro scratched his head over the $700 figure and walked away.

For some owners of lots in the section, the government deal has been a gold mine. Several men bought up Murphy act deeds to lots for as low as six and seven dollars and have now sold the lots to the government for $100 apiece.

Rep. Gersing's Slum Views

Postwar D. C. Exodus of Negro Forecast in Housing Warning

Post-Washington, D.C.
4-5-44

By James E. Chinn

Twenty-five per cent of the Negroes in Washington are "new comers" attracted by offers of good jobs at high wages and most of them will return to their former homes when the war ends, the Senate District Committee investigating slum housing was told yesterday by Maurice A. Gersing of the Columbia Heights Improvement Association.

He pointed to this potential postwar exodus as an important factor to be considered in connection with development of a program for rehousing the District's 20,000 alley dwellers, 90 per cent of whom are estimated to be Negroes.

Gersing, who said he has been interested in public housing for more than 20 years, suggested that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission prepare a "master plan" for the future development of Washington after first finding out through a city-wide canvass the prospective shift that will take place after the war—a survey that would yield now a fairly accurate picture of postwar housing needs.

Gersing explained that his estimate of a 25 per cent Negro movement out of Washington following the war was based on the results of a survey he made—a personal interview with 3000 Negroes which took him nine months.

"Twenty-five per cent of them told me they were going back to their homes immediately after the war is over," he said.

"Most of them are newcomers who came here because they were told they could get good jobs, high wages and they should clean up while the cleaning is good and then go home." 4-5-44

Gersing and Mrs. Margaret Hopkins Worrell, president of the improvement association, presented to the subcommittee a proposed bill embodying a slum reclamation plan modeled after the New York urban redevelopment program. Adoption of such a plan here, it was pointed out, would stop the present battle between public and private housing interests and allow builders and property owners to get together and work out a satisfactory low-cost, low-rental housing program.

Combined efforts of public and private housing agencies will be required to clear the District of its blighted areas, it was testified by Joseph Phillips, president of the Washington Industrial Union Council (CIO).

"It is not a question of whether the job should be done by the private builders or by the National Capital Housing Authority," he declared, "but rather how much of the job can be done by the private builders and how much will have to be done by NCHA. There is more than enough for both to do."

Phillips made two recommendations:

Closer cooperation between the NCHA, the NCPPC and other planning agencies in nearby Maryland and Virginia to insure large-scale slum clearance and rehousing on the basis of an integrated plan for the metropolitan area as a whole.

Negro representation on the "policy level" of all agencies charged with the reclamation of slums. 4-5-44

Plan Dooms Harlem Slums

PM-New York, N.Y.

$100,000,000 Postwar Clearance Program

1-25-44

By Allen Gordon

PM Exclusive

A new Harlem is being planned for after the war—a Harlem swept clear of its slums and fire-traps, a Harlem studded with parks and recreation centers. The plans are being made by the Manhattan Advisory Planning Board of the City Planning Commission, but it will be up to the Board of Estimate to provide the funds—at least $100,000,000.

Harlem, usually the last community to receive slum-clearance attention, this time is first on the Board's planning books, Manhattan Borough President Edgar J. Nathan, Jr., said today. Though active construction is being held up by the war, the blueprints, models and architectural plans will be ready when peace comes.

Practical Advisers

The advisory planning board is composed of practical men. Henry Bruere, president of the Bowery Savings Bank, is chairman. His associates are Lee Thompson Smith, president of the Lawyers Title Corp. of New York, and Cameron Clark, consulting architect. They serve without pay. 1-25-44

The duty of the board is to advise Nathan, at his request, or on its own initiative, of any modification of the master plan of the borough in regard to streets, sewers, highways, viaducts, bridges and public places. Now the board has been asked to extend its field to housing and kindred problems.

Sub-Committees

In each section of the city a subcommittee of leading local citizens will co-operate with the Advisory Board. Harlem's sub-committee will be headed by the Rev. John H. Johnson, pastor of St. Martin's Episcopal Church. Other members will be named soon. 1-25-44

The Harlem area on which the board will concentrate is bounded on the south by 110th St., on the north by 165th St., on the west by Amsterdam Ave., on the east by the Harlem River.

GROUP SELECTED FOR STUDY OF NEGRO HOUSING

Tribune-Chicago, Ill.
2-22-44

Finding adequate living space for the 335,000 Negroes of Chicago, who are overcrowded in their restricted living area, is the job of the newly appointed subcommittee on housing of the mayor's committee on race relations, Edwin R. Embress, chairman, said yesterday in announcing the personnel of the subcommittee. The first meeting of the subcommittee will be held Wednesday. 2-22-44

Members of the subcommittee are: Ald. [Kells [28th], James C. Downs Jr., Thomas Slater, George F. McCray, Harry J. Walker, William Y. Browne, Arthur Kruggel, Robert R. Taylor, and Morton Bodfish. Robert C. Weaver, executive director of the committee said there can be no permanent easing of racial tension until something is done about housing.

committee, he said, will attempt to solve this problemf and make recommendations to the mayor's

City Anti-Bias Housing Measure Dr. Davis-Isaacs Fight on Stuyvesant Bears Fruit

New York, N.Y.
2-3-44

By HARRY RAYMOND

A compromise on the Isaac-Davis and Hart-Cohen Bills, the new measure will deny tax exemption to future housing developments similar to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's Stuyvesant Town project

who refuse apartments to Negroes. but it will not affect Stuyvesant Town's Jim Crow policy.

The finance committee of the City Council by unanimous vote yesterday approved and sent to the

Action on the compromise bill

The majority of the committee

a similar nature.

projects of

as well as in all future

im Crow

measure which would bar J

practices in the Stuyvesant project

came at the end of a limited hear-

ing in which 10 leaders of civic, community and church organizations asked the councilmen to pass

the position that due to the retroactive features of the Isaac-Davis and Hart-Cohen Bills they would be declared unconstitutional by the courts.

SAYS FIGHT GOES ON

With Stanley Isaacs, co-author of one of the bills, casting the only negative vote, the committee ordered the two bills filed.

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr. Manhattan Communist and co-author with Isaacs of the original bill, when advised of the fate of his bill declared:

"They can file the bill, they can't file the fight against Jim Crow in Stuyvesant Town."

At the hearing Davis told the committee the compromise bill would establish in the law an anti-Jim Crow principle, but added:

"We have to find ways and means to see that Negroes, Jews, Catholics or anybody else can live in Stuyvesant Town." 5-2-44

He said he too did not want to pass laws inconsistant with the Constitution, but advised those who challenged the constitutionality of the Isaacs-Davis Bill not to be "unduly concerned over the clash of legal minds." The question of constitutionality, he added, "could not be determined by the legislative body but by the courts in the final analysis."

Charles Abrams, counsel for the Citizen's Housing Council, led the list of speakers at the committee hearing. He supported the principle of all the anti-discrimination bills but urged that the measure finally adopted should apply to projects already constructed or under construction as well as future projects. 5-2-44

Councilman Anthony DiGiovanna, Brooklyn Democrat, argued that the Isaacs-Davis and Hart-Cohen bills would give the state courts power not granted them by the Constitution. He went along with his fellow majority members in backing the compromise which was written by Vice-Chairman Joseph T. Sharkey and introduced by the entire finance committee. Sharkey added an amendment to his bill making it apply not only to future housing projects but also business enterprises within the projects.

Others backing the Isaacs-Davis Bill at the hearing were Robert M. Benjamin, of the Citywide Citizen's Committee on Harlem; the Rev. Edler Hawkins, of the St. Augustine Church, the Bronx; the Rev. A. Clayton Powell; the Rev. Wayne White, of the Bronx Clergy Association; Marion Perry, National Lawyers Guild; Shirley Addelson, Civil Liberties Union; Vivian Wenhen, of Negro Women Inc., and Catherine Masters. United Tenants League.

Council Passes Bill Barring Jimcrow In Future Housing

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 5-16-44

By HARRY RAYMOND

The City Council struck a blow at jimcrow yesterday by adopting a local law barring racial discrimination against tenants in all future-constructed semi - private housing projects of the tax exempt class.

An amended version of the original Isaacs-Davis Bill and Hart-Cohen measure, the new law, which awaits approval of the Mayor and Board of Estimate, would penalize operators of jimcrow projects by withdrawing tax exemption granted by state law.

13 TO 2 VOTE

Its adoption came after three hours of debate and floor conferences in which both majority and minority supporters of the general principles of the law worked to iron out minor legal and technical disagreements. The final vote was 13 "yes" and 2 not voting.

Minority Leader Genevieve B. Earle, stating she believed such a law would discourage private housing construction, and J. A. Phillips, Queens Democrat, declaring "you can't end race discrimination with legislation," declined to cast their votes. 5-16-44

The new law is a compromise on the original Isaacs Davis Bill which applied retroactively to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.'s Stuyvesant Town. The compromise version will not effect this project, which, according to Metropolitan spokesman Frederick Eckert, will not admit Negro tenants.

NOT GOING UP—DAVIS

"The term compromise does not mean to me we are giving up the fight to end discrimination in Stuyvesant Town," said Benjamin J. Davis Jr., Manhattan Communist and co-sponsor of the original bill. "I am very much in favor of the finance committee bill, but I am not in favor of giving up the fight in this Council against discrimination in Stuyvesant Town."

Davis argued that the compromise bill should be adopted, but that both his measure and that of Councilmen Louis Cohen and Walter Hart be sent back to committee for reconsideration. Stanley M. Isaacs joined with Davis in this view, but he suggested the Hart-Cohen Bill should be the only other one considered.

A legislative jam occurred when vice-chairman Joseph T. Sharkey threatened to rally the majority to return all three bills to committee if the minority would not agree to file all but the compromise measure. On the first vote to file the Isaacs-Davis and Hart-Cohen Bills, the majority had failed to muster sufficient votes and Sharkey, last on the rollcall, held up the balloting until he got sufficient members to change their votes. The two bills were then filed, with Davis, Isaacs, Klein, Quill and Cacchione opposing the motion. 5-16-44

HITS "TECHNICALITY" TALK

Those opposing action on the two original bills did so on the grounds that they believed their retroactive features were unconstitutional.

Davis declared there was "too much talk about legal technicalities," stating "we'll be dumping a deep responsibility if we do not act on Stuyvesant Town."

Council President Newbold Morris, who fought in the Board of Estimate against granting the Stuyvesant Town contract, came down on the floor and entered the debate. He told the councilmen they had "vast powers and a great capacity for mobilizing public opinion" and congratulated them for writing the three bills.

"If this local law is not constitutional," he said referring to the Isaacs-Davis bill, "then we had better call the war off and tell the boys to come home."

Peter V. Cacchione, Brooklyn Communist, also questioned the view that the Isaacs-Davis and Hart-Cohen bills were unconstitutional.

"Let the courts decide this issue." he said.

The final vote on the finance committee bill, however, was declared by councilmen on both sides of the house as a major step in the war against jimcrow.

Private Industry Flopped On Housing for Negroes

P.M. New York, N.Y. 6-19-44

Figures Prove Public Housing Is Needed

By NATHAN ROBERTSON
PM's Bureau

PM Exclusive

WASHINGTON, June 19. – Private industry's claims that it can build all the homes the Nation needs and that public housing is therefore unnecessary were blasted today by official figures showing that private builders have failed almost completely in the job of providing war housing for Negroes.

The figures showed that up to April 1, despite the terrific shortage of Negro housing in many war centers, private industry had completed less than 3000 housing units for Negroes out of almost 17,000 allocated to it by the Government.

Less than 1 per cent of the war housing completed by private industry under war allocations was Negro housing, although about 10 per cent of the Nation's population is Negro and notoriously poorly housed. Out of the 362,077 war housing units completed by April 1, only 2880 were for Negroes. 6-19-44

Priorities Unused

The failure of private industry to provide Negro housing was even more forcibly demonstrated by the figures on priorities for Negro housing that have not been used. Out of 16,882 priorities granted to private industry for Negro housing, a third has not been used; another third has been accepted but no construction has been started; and altogether only 4793, or less than a third, have been started.

This record is in sharp contrast with the figures on white war housing. Here private industry has completed most of the housing units for which it has been given priorities to build and only about 15,000 priorities out of 500,000 are unused.

While less than a third of the Negro units for which priorities have been granted are built or building, about 430,000 of the 500,000 white units for which priorities have been granted are under way.

Need Public Programs

Negro leaders say these figures prove that private industry cannot be counted upon to provide the housing that America's Negroes so badly need. They say the only way such housing can be provided is through public housing programs.

Spokesmen for the Negroes said that bad as the record of war housing for Negroes is, it is better than private industry's record in normal times. They contend that in peace-times virtually no new housing is put up for Negroes, and members of that race have to depend upon left-over, second hand housing from the whites.

On the other hand, Abner H. Ferguson, Federal Housing Administrator, who is in charge of priorities for war housing, told PM "the mere fact that private industry hasn't been building for Negroes doesn't indicate necessarily that it couldn't build in the future if it got the proper rents."

Sites Rstricted

Ferguson said the difficulty was not so much in getting builders to put up Negro housing as it was to get sites for the housing in view of building restrictions originated with the private building interests, and were fostered by them.

The figures on what private industry has done to provide housing for Negroes is particularly important at this time, as the battle between public and private housing is already under way in Congress.

Legislation for the District of Columbia, which may prove a model for national post-war housing legislation, is being pushed in Congress by the private home builders to block public housing and turn the entire housing job over to private industry.

Spokesmen for the Washington Home Builders Association and the National Home Builders Association are assuring Congress private industry can do the job. Public housing is being called Communistic. Sen. Millard Tydings (D., Md.) is author of the bill being pushed by the private interests.

Horne Offers Program For Post-War Housing

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO.—Dr. Frank Horne, FEPC, Washington, D. C., and Horace Cayton, director, Parkway Community House, Chicago, were afternoon discussion leaders on a housing program for the NAACP War-time Conference, Thursday afternoon session, Metropolitan Community Church, Chicago.

Summation of the historical next it would be easy to assume that there might be possible collusion be- (1) The permanence of Cayton's address on restrictive program was defeated by the stated tween the National Housing Agency covenants brought out the fact that policy of the HOLC and NHA not to Expansion of the public housing restrictive covenants hampered the Agency had referred Negro appli- convert property for Negro occupancy program. (3) The re-orientation of pri- U. S. Housing Authority and Home cants to one or two locations rather which is covered by a restrictive vate enterprise. (4) The availability Owner's Loan Corporation. He than follow the normal process of covenant." of additional areas. (5) Urban re- pointed out that the War Housing Dr. Horne proposed that the NAACP development.

Mr. Cayton said, "The conversion' program was defeated by the stated policy of the HOLC and NHA not to convert property for Negro occupancy which is covered by a restrictive covenant." 7-22-44

Conversion Program

Dr. Horne proposed that the NAACP adopt the following program for better certification of workers to a list of

66b-1944

Willis Names Group to Study Negro Needs

Courier Journal + Louisville, Ky.
9-27-44

Commission of 12 Appointed; All State Agencies Ordered To Give Full Co-operation

By the Associated Press.

Frankfort, Ky., Sept. 26.—A commission to study means of improving the condition of Kentucky Negroes was appointed today by Gov. Simeon Willis.

The commission of twelve, six of them Negroes, was created under an order by the Chief Executive to ascertain "all the facts and conditions relating to the economic, educational, housing, health and other needs for the betterment of the Negro citizens of Kentucky."

The Chief Executive specified that the commission shall make a final report to him at least ninety days before the 1946 session of the General Assembly, and he ordered that all State agencies, including the University of Kentucky's research department, give full co-operation to the investigating body, whose members are to provide for their own expenses. 9-27-44

1st Group to Be Named.

The commission was the first of three to be named by Governor Willis in line with his radio address of last August 31 in which he said he would name this group and also appoint commissions to investigate tax revision and post-war development.

Without specifying any of the twelve as chairman, Governor Willis designated J. M. Tydings, Anchorage, to call the first meeting. The other eleven members are:

State Representative Charles W. Anderson, W. K. Belknap, Tarleton Collier, the Rev. William H. Ballou, J. J. Kavanagh, Robert E. Black, William H. Perry, secretary-treasurer of the Kentucky Negro Education Association, all of Louisville; Dr. Maurice F. Rabb, Shelbyville physician; Mrs. Christine Bradley South, Frankfort; Dr. William H. Vaughan, Morehead State Teachers College president, and Mrs. W. H. Fouse, Lexington.

The Governor said Anderson, Black, Perry, Rabb, Ballou and Mrs. Fouse were the Negro representatives.

GOV. SIMEON WILLIS
9-27-44

66b-1944

New York

EDITORIAL

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

1944 Should Bring These Things!!!

1. A Negro elected to a public office by the Negroes of Brooklyn. 1-1-44
2. More teachers in uptown Brooklyn schools and less overcrowded classrooms.
3. Additional Negro policemen and detectives in the precincts governing areas thickly-populated by Negro residents.
4. A Brooklyn Negro should be appointed to the Board of Education. The school conditions in the borough is sorely in need of this type of consideration.
5. More playgrounds and recreational centers should be opened.
6. Churches should do more toward the formation of recreational programs.
7. Negroes should take the political leadership in the 5th and 17th Assembly Districts.

These are just a few of the things that we would like to see happen doing the course of 1944 and the Brooklyn Amsterdam News pledges itself to fight for them. This is a time when all fair-minded Boroughites should put their shoulders to the wheel of progress and fight for the things that will definitely better our community. 1-1-44

The Brooklyn Negro is tired of these flagrant promises which have dented the horizon and are impatiently awaiting a concrete plan for action. We've got to make up our minds and every organization in our sector should get busy and launch a drive that will assist the fight to get the aforementioned things.

66b-1944

Ohio

Bi-Racial Barbering Begins November 1

News Tribune — Oberlin, Ohio

9-21-44

Committee To Purchase Winder Shop

Barber From Washington Has Been Hired; Will Raise $2,500 Capital

Oberlin's much discussed bi-racial barber shop will open on or about November 1, in the location now occupied by Bill Winder, according to an announcement released yesterday by the committee consisting of Walter M. Horton, Robert S. Thomas, Normal C. Crosby and Philip W. Bishop.

The committee has arranged to purchase Mr. Winder's business, and is conducting a campaign to raise $2,500 in capital to establish the new shop. The financial committee is composed of Mr. Bishop, Willard Mitchell, Roger D. Robison and Leonard A. Stidley.

Winder to Farm

Mr. Winder has been one of Oberlin's most popular barbers during nearly 20 years in business here. He and Mrs. Winder expect to move next spring to their farm down state, and during the winter months Mr. Winder will seek employment in some war industry. They have three sons in the U. S. fighting forces.

The committee's statement is as follows: 9-21-44

The "Barber Shop Harmony" Committee announces that it is now in a position to proceed with its plans to open a bi-racial barber shop in Oberlin. They have agreed to purchase Bill Winder's shop on South Main street.

It is understood that the shop will be available under the new management on November 1. Mr. Winder will continue to operate the shop, as at present, until November 1.

Barber Is Hired

The Oberlin Cosmopolitan Barber Shop will employ two barbers. The first, Vaughan T. Olney of Washington, D. C., has already been engaged and he will arrive in town around October 22. Mr. Olney has had long experience in the trade and the committee believes that he will be a welcome addition to the community. The second barber will be engaged as soon as business justifies his coming. 9-21-44

Attorney Eva Mae Parker has already started the formalities of application for charter of incorporation and a meeting of those interested will be called at an early date to settle the by-laws and to appoint officers. Meanwhile, the committee and the special Finance Committee appointed to secure funds wish to anticipate the issue of the charter and to collect subscriptions as soon as possible.

A PLEDGE RENEWED

The *News-Tribune* editor reprints below several excerpts from his editorial of May 11, headed "Barber Shop Harmony," to reaffirm the position he took then, and to urge that his readers do likewise. The editorial read (in part) as follows: 9-21-44

Personally we would be glad to patronize a barber shop which would welcome Negro customers. We suggest that those others who agree with us should take occasion to say so . . .

We are confident that a good barber who made it a point to accept members of all races as customers *would* be a financial success here . . . there certainly are enough liberal-minded men in this community to keep a good two-or-three chair bi-racial barber shop going profitably.

To back up this opinion . . . we suggest that the one right way to change this situation is for those who are interested to buy out one of the local barber shops and operate it on a bi-racial basis. Let the other barbers urn their shops as they want to. 9-21-44

We publicly pledge our own willingness to invest money and patronize in any such plan.

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possible.

Those who have already pledged should pay over their contributions to the treasurer, P. W. Bishop, 35 South Professor street, if possible this week, and it is hoped that as many as possible of those interested will accept this announcement as an invitation to subscribe and to solicit contributions from friends.

To Issue Stock

The goal is $2500; this sum is needed (1) to buy the equipment and goodwill of Mr. Winder's business, and (2) to provide the business with funds adequate to guarantee the barbers a minimum living wage during the period of development.

The estimates on which this sum has been arrived at are on a generous scale and it is probable that, at the end of the first year, the business will find itself in possession of surplus cash, which will be returned to subscribers pro rata to their contributions. The estimates may be seen by anyone interested.

Subscriptions which may be paid to any member of the two committees should be in multiples of $1: stock will be issued in $1 units as soon as the formalities are completed.

Leadership School Of The Red Cross Starts

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., June 18.—The second annual Red Cross leadership school at Tuskegee Institute opens Monday, June 19, with an enrollment of more than 100 in attendance. 6-19-44

Members of the military personnel from five U. S. Army camps will be among the enrollees.

Louis Plunkett and Harmon Marks of the Southeastern Area office, American Red Cross, were at Tuskegee Institute today and conferred with Mrs. B. B. Walcott executive secretary, Tuskegee Institute Chapter, ARC, members of the Water Safety Committee and the local leadership school chairman. Both representatives expressed themselves as pleased with the Institute's facilities, the arrangements which have been made for the operation of the school and with the splendid cooperation which the national office has received from the Institute and the military personnel. 6-19-44

Members of the armed forces will be housed at the Tuskegee Army Air Field, Tuskegee, Ala., according to Capt. Fred Minnis, special service officer at the air field.

MISSES HOME, COLLEGE

Negro Soldier in Italy Lauds Work of Red Cross

Times—St. Petersburg Fla.

The work that the American Red Cross is doing for our service men overseas, gets the highest praise in a letter from a St. Petersburg negro soldier, Pfc. Ralph Al James, to his father, Chester L. James, 308 Tenth street north. 4-24-44

This 20-year-old soldier, who is a graduate of Gibbs high school, was studying dentistry at the time he enlisted in the Army. Now located somewhere in Italy, his letter—written March 29—began: "Three-fourth of the day has passed and I've been going around with a melancholy drag on my face; thinking about you and Mom, and all the wonderful things I'm missing back home. This is my third attempt to write you today. All the other times I closed up because my letter read like I felt, when all at once I realized that I was in a new country with things far more exciting. And, well this just isn't the place to be gathering any gloomy ideas. Then up went my false pretentions with a boom! and now I'm okeh.

"I've seen enough of Italy to know that in pre-war days it was a beautiful country. Of course, it's pretty well damaged now, and some ruins are beyond conception. I hope to be able to describe some of the places I've seen later on—if permissible.

"So far, I'm getting along okeh, Dad. Plenty of experiences with little or no danger. The more I think of home, the more I want to get up front and get this job done so I can get back with you and all the things I love so well. I guess my chance will come after a while. 4-24-44

"By the way, Dad, there is something I want to tell you about —the ARC (American Red Cross). This organization is one that is really worth while! Everywhere I've been, the ARC has a set-up where American soldiers can go and have a nice time. It functions in so many different ways, I just won't begin to itemize them.

"When I get back home, I intend to give them a big write-up in the daily paper, not for just what I think of them, but for the things that I know they are doing to help the American soldier!

"And one more thing, Dad, if ever there is a call for help from them, or any kind of opportunity

PFC. RALPH AL JAMES

to make a donation to the ARC, don't hesitate Dad. Give until it hurts, and then think of me and give some more. Yes, you can tell them all that I said the ARC is really (as GI's like to say) 'on the ball'." 4-24-44

Ralph's father is a porter at the local bus station and his mother is a former school teacher. He has two sisters, Ella Mary Holmes, a teacher at Jordan elementary school, and Kathryn Elizabeth James, supervising nurse in the operating room at Florida's A. & M. college hospital at Tallahassee. His brother, Pvt. Chester James Jr., is on duty at the Lakeland Army air base.

[illegible]

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

The Red Cross War Fund drive starts on Sunday, March 19, and there is in the mind of some Negro citizens doubt as to the advisibility of subscribing to this effort. It is no pleasant thought to Negroes when the segregated blood bank is taken into consideration as well as some of the other jim-crow practices of this mercy organization. 3-10-44

However, this is one of the times when we must take a long run view of what we feel to be a bad situation.

The Red Cross is the only agency of its kind doing the particular job that has federal government sanction. Negro soldiers in the various branches of the service receive Red Cross assistance. While the individual may think he is doing right by not giving to the Red Cross he is not doing right by the Negro soldier who is fighting to protect Negro citizens as well as right.

THINK OF BLACK SOLDIERS

The Negro in the armed services had little right of protest and none so far as such agencies as the Red Cross and similar groups are concerned. The Negro civilian can make conditions better for those in the army and navy by supporting the war effort in full and at the same time protesting continually against those groups that have un-American practices.

On all the foreign fields, from responsible sources the Red Cross is providing recreation and other services for black soldiers. It may not at all time be equal to that furnished white soldiers but these Negroes far from home and friends are better off with even limited Red Cross service than no help at all.

PROTEST TREATMENT 3-10-44

As an agency soliciting public funds the Red Cross is not above criticism for its shortcomings as regards Negroes, whose dollars buy the same amount of service as those given by whites.

Negro organizations and individuals should not pull punches in constantly reminding the Red Cross that it is not living up to real American traditions. This can only be done effectively when Negroes are doing their part to keep the Red Cross going in these war days.

Certainly our blood boils when we hear of some of the deliberate jim-crow tactics of this organization which should treat all Americans alike when it solicits and accepts dollars from Negroes as well as from whites. Constant pressure should be applied until this agency changes its present attitude.

It may seem hard but it seems that the American Negro must not only be a patriot but a super-patriot in these trying days when Democracy is on trial. We may have to stoop to conquer but we needn't stop throwing all the blows possible against jim-crowism.

KEEP ON GIVING

The Red Cross should always be reminded forcibly of its separate blood bank policy, a deliberate insult to every Negro citizen who would share his blood to save a life and not necessarily a Negro life.

Contributions could even contain pointed letters of criticism about this and other segregated acts of the Red Cross but the flow of dollars should not stop.

The American Negro must not only fight his way through this war but help to pay the freight. When victory has been won he will be in a better position to demand his just dues than if he just complains and fails to help provide even for his own security.

Despite what seems to be unsurmountable handicaps the American Negro is probably closer to fuller freedom than at any time since freedom.

MUST MAKE FRIENDS 3-10-44

It may be true that our enemies are increasing but are not our friends and supporters among whites increasing also? Hardly a day passes that some people high in authority take up our fight either by direct action, through the printed word or on the radio.

If we must be super-loyal let's be it. But along with it we must keep our eye on the ball. We can alter the words of a Negro president of a southern school who advised us that we should be thinking of our duties instead of our rights to "thinking of our rights and duties at the same time."

66b-1944

Sumter, S. C. Daily Item
February 2, 1944

AT NEGRO CENTER OPENING: Officials shown at the re-opening o the community recreation center for negroes in top photo are, left t right: City Manager J. A. Raffield, Mayor F. B. Creech, U. S. O. Direc tor Charles B. Bradley, Councilman Herbert Moses, Supervisor of Cit Recreation Miss Adele Moore, and Recreation Secretary Miss Leil Myers. Colored leaders who attended the opening, pictured below, are left to right: Dr. S. J. McDonald, Jr., Dr. E. C. Jones, S. J. McDonald N. Karl Greene, supervisor of the colored center. Back of the guests or the right is the Lincoln High school glee club which rendered a num ber of selections during the ceremony.

Mayor Creech Dedicated Negro Center Last Night

Mayor F. B. Creech presented the beautiful recreation center at 42 Council srteet to colored sol diers and citizens in a formal dedi cation last night. Several hundred persons were present for the re opening of the recently renovated and modernized community house.

"It is the ambition of our churches, scools, and people to provide wholesome recreation for the community," Mayor Creech said, mentioning the work of the S. O., Jenkins Center, and the Recreation Hall over Lawson's.

"The first center for negroes was located on Washington street," he said. "The city purchased this Council street building and the beautiful center is for the use of the colored soldiers and civilians."

"Each of you is part owner of this center," said City Manager J. A. Raffield, "and all should contribute to its success and proper upkeep."

City Councilman Herbert Moses made the welcome remarks to which Dr. E. C. Jones responded.

Recreation

CITY PURCHASES NEGRO PARK SITE

Age-Herald-Chronicle

A contract for purchase of the Tuxedo Park property located at Tuxedo Junction for use of Negroes has been negotiated between the property owners and the Birmingham Park and Recreation Board for a price of $13,500, it was announced at a special called meeting of the board Wednesday.

The owners originally requested $15,000 for the Tuxedo Park property which contains 36 lots and has a 50 by 100 feet swimming pool, but on a compromise offer by the Park and Recreation Board later agreed to accept $13,500 with the understanding that a city lien for $1,200 for sewer assessments would not affect the lower purchase price.

Of the purchase price $5,000 was donated by Erskine Ramsay and another $5,000 contributed by Louis Pizitz. The City Commission at a recent meeting voted unanimously to increase its appropriation to the Park Board by an additional $3,500 to take care of the remaining $3,500 needed for the purchase price.

It was decided by the Park and Recreation Board that when the park is dedicated as city property it will be named in honor of William McAlpine, a Negro civic leader who, before his recent death was an active member of a Negro committee to have the city acquire the park property.

4-7-44

Mayor Cooper Green said Wednesday following announcement of purchase of the park by the board he had written the board Tuesday of the $1,200 in old WPA assessments against the property.

Eugene Connor, associate city commissioner, said he would insist the $1,200 be paid, either by the board or by the sellers of the property to satisfy the assessments due.

Mayor Green and James A. Downey, Jr., park board chairman, said "the $1,200 in assessments, if demanded by Mr. Connor, will be paid even if we have to raise the money dollar by dollar among the Negroes." Mayor Green, however, said there are numerous cases where the city in acquiring property through purchase for civic purposes, such as parks, had waived city improvement assessments.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
January 12, 1944

Recreational Project Planned for Negro Youth

A start toward recreational facilities for city's Negro youth, was made yesterday when the recreational advisory council recently named by Mayor George Patterson voted to recommend to city council an appropriation of $400 to remodel a building at Campbell park as a Negro youth recreational center for that area.

It was brought out during the meeting that various civic clubs and individuals have volunteered sufficient funds to equip the Campbell park building after it is remodeled.

The appropriation recommendation will go before council during its next regular meeting.

NEGROES PROTEST RECREATION SITE

February 5, 1944

Local Negroes Friday, at a meeting of the Augusta Civic and Business League, requested a Negro recreation park that would be separate from the C. T. Walker school playground.

The executive committee met at the offices of the Pilgram Life Insurance Company on Gwinnett Street. Augusta, Ga., Herald

W. S. Hornsby, chairman, explained that if the proposed plan of the city recreation group is carried out the playground would of necessity be closed to the public during the hours from nine until 2 o'clock while school is in session or the community would have the system of older persons mingling with small children with probably undesirable results.

It was suggested that no playground with hours of service so restricted could give full recreational service to all age groups.

The committee, in explaining its needs for better recreation facilities for Negroes, brought out the fact that the city maintains five public parks for white persons scattered throughout the city, and that no separate recreation park had ever been provided for the Negroes.

It was also suggested that no one site could adequately meet the needs of 27,000 Negroes scattered from the Hill section down to East Boundary.

T. Walker school grounds and e pressed the hope that the pla ground would not b establishe on grounds closely connecte with any of the city's schools.

Before the group called togethe by W. S. Hornsby, exe utive com mittee chairman, leaders explaine that if the pre t plan is followe either the playground will of nece sity have to be closed during the school hours of 9 o'clock in the morning until 2 o'clock in the afternoon or the community will see the mingling of older persons with the school children with all of the undesirable results that such a situation would give rise to.

In connection with the first alternative, it was suggested that no playground whose hours of service were so restricted could give full service to all age groups.

The committee, in attempting to select a suitable site which could be recommended instead of the Walker school location, was hampered by the fact that no park ever has been provided for Negro citizens in Augusta, it was said.

It was explained that recreation facilities for white citizens will be centered at five public parks which through the years, have been operated for them through-out the city. Members were agreed, however, that no site could adequately meet the needs of the 27,000 Negroes of Augusta whose residences spread from the hill section to the First Ward portion.

Final decision of the group was to request of recreation authorities further and serious considera tion of the recreational needs of this one-third of Augusta's popu lation.

Negroes Protest Recreation Site

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle

Believe Walker School Unsuited For Project

February 5, 1944

The present plans for recreational facilities for Negros under the new program were declared incompatible with what Negroes consider desirable at a meeting of the executive committee of the Augusta Civic and Business league, held yesterday afternoon.

The meeting was held in the offices of the Pilgrim's Life Insurance Company.

Thirty negro business and professional men and women of the city, representing the opinion of the community, were unanimous in the expression that it would be a mistake to place the proposed recreation center on the Charles

First Recreation Training Institute Proves Success

Augusta Recreation Program, said the Institute had been successful beyond even hope. "It's the largest and most successful institute I've ever seen conducted, and this is with such enthusiastic recreation leaders we are sure to have a plan established here with success," he said.

Perhaps a more concrete example of the success of the institute is the continuance of the Recreation Institute, which will nightly from eight to ten in the Ballroom to get the study of games and programs. practical advice on the handling, tinued another day; 35 colored workers, and afternoon Monday through Thursday — assembled day. Originally a three-day program was planned but the pro- so popular it was con- -haired social work- of men — sprinkling of women — has completed 10 hours of Leadership training in the Recreation Training Institute conducted by the National Recreation Association and sponsored by The Augusta Recreation Commission."

And nine-two people will need meet once monthly and continue to recuperate at least a week after the institute. going through the hilarious and romping games taught them by Miss Helen M. Dauncey, national recreation staff worker, during the past week.

By MARYANNE TOOLE

Ninety-two proud but tired people were flaunting certificates Friday night which read "This is to certify that ——— has completed 10 hours of Leadership training in the Recreation Training Institute conducted by the National Recreation Association and sponsored by The Augusta Recreation Commission."

Miss Dora A. Hains is chairman of this group.

Each evening, Monday through Friday, eager students cross-section of every age from the teen-age high school student, through

NEGRO CLASSES ALSO

The games taught during the two-hour session are too numerous to be mentioned but they included games for all ages, occa-

Out at the Bethlehem Center negro classes were held in the

there.

crying out of rec-workers were awarded certificates

reation programs.

sions and numbers. They included musical games, square dances, folk games, stunts and stunt songs. Miss Dauncey also outlined many activities which could be adopted for small children, teen-agers, civilians and uniformed men and women.

At the first session, the representative pointed out that the objectives of a recreation program were fun, joy and a good time; relaxation; companionship and friends; self-reliance, and it should be condusive to good health and character building. It must also be a program that can not only be enjoyed at the Center but can be adapted to home needs.

Miss Dauncey said, "A good recreation program should include physical activities which cover everything from a sports program, rough games through social and folk dancing; creative arts, such as music, dramatics arts and crafts; social slant, which means special parties, discussions and forums clubs and activities which have service slants, or are really helpful to others." Music was furnished for the Institute by Miss Mary Katherine Reiser.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

And to show the representatives who attended the course, Miss Dauncey had a special activity or book which illustrated each point she emphasized. There was no excuse for a worker not to have a plan almost worked out before her, and every worker went away with a notebook chock full of ideas.

The nicest thing about the Institute was that it was fun, and everyone learned by doing, which means all the ideas will stick.

Miss Dauncey was modern to the nth degree. For instance she said "If the people who come to your institute want to sing 'Pistol Packing Mama', let 'em. Then gradually you can work away from that to Community singing groups harmonizing of folk songs."

"You know," she confined, "Commercial recreation had a lot to offer and we can learn a lot from them. We can learn to put bright lights on the outside and dim lights on the inside. But there let the comparison end. Give them the glamor of commercial recreation with the pure wholesomeness of fun and companionship."

LIST OF CERTIFICATES

The climax came Friday night when Mrs. S. H. Swint, chairman of the Training Course Committee presented Recreation Training Institute Certificates to 92 people. She was assisted by Miss Muriel Mallison, secretary, and Miss Dauncey.

Those awarded certificates for completing 10 hours of training were: Addie Babbit, Athalee Baker, Mary Bartlett, Dorothy A. Hains, Sara Broadwater, Muriel Mallison, Cora Lee Sikes, Miss Flora Thompson, Terrence Battey, Mary Bostick, Mrs. Daisy Bothwell, Mae Claire Bradley, Mary Ann Bresnahan, Mrs. Robert Bresnahan, Sue Brittingham, Lenora Butler, Mrs. J. H. Carmichael, Vera Carswell, Mary Chance, Claudine Copeland, Mrs. F. L. Damren, Mildred Davenport, Mary Davis, Julia Dunaway, Caroline Eagerton, Mrs. J. C. Hardy, Mrs. J. J. Hooper, Mary Jane Hutto, Louise Lewis, Charelly Lyons, Ann W. McConnell, Jean McLarty, Sara Middleton, Irene Morris, Mrs. S. W. Perry, Rebecca Printup, Mary Katherine Reiser, Lona Rutland, Doris Satterfield, Elizabeth Schweers, Mrs. R. H. Singletary, Marjorie Smith, Frances Strawhorn, Dorothy Sullivan, Mary F. Webb, Janet Wills, Ethel Young, Maryanne Toole, Ethel L. Sigman, Myra Smith and Lollie J. Lazenby.

For completion of nine hours training: Meva C. Hiers, Minnie McGee, and Jane Paquette.

For completion of eight hours training: James Armistead, Pfc. Gilbert Arndt, Peggy Bassing, Lucille Boyer, Mrs. W. H. Eubanks, Carolyn I. Evans, Myrtle G. Fair, Fredericka Gregory, Dorothy Linson, Susan Liske, Mrs. Theodore Price, Ruth Read, Anne Redbic, Mildred Ridgely, Evelyn P. Simpson, Emily Smith, Gladys C. Swint, Mary Symms, Bell Walker, Virginia Lively, Minerva Warren, Mrs. Stephen Phillips, May Dee Bell, Ann Belding, Kathleen Mathis, Mildred Platt, Anna L. Prothro, Catherine Roesel, Dorothy Stringer, Bertha Trotti, Mrs. H. F. Williamson, Gadsden Bennett, Vera Bennett, Margaret Broome, Joyce Buford, Mrs. John Garwood, Hazel Googer, Suzanne Hardy and Dorothy King.

tion department.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
February 5, 1944

Negro Recreation Center.

New Bern, Feb. 4.—After a year's effort on the part of the city, Mayor L. C. Lawrence reports, the government has approved use of the Baker building here as a Negro recreation center. Federal money will be used in renovating and remodeling the structure.

Recreational Institute for Negroes Today

Columbia, S. C. State

Both sessions of the Columbia Recreational institute today, conducted by Miss Helen M. Dauncey of the National Recreation association, will be devoted to Negro leaders. The meetings, scheduled from 10 a. m. to 12 noon and from 4 to 6 p. m., will be held at the Old Howard Community center.

Discussion will be held on methods for getting persons to participate in recreation, development and organization of individuals, and group and teen age interests.

Creative games, including active, quiet and musical ones, will be illustrated during the sessions. A general discussion of training will be held.

February 4, 1944

The institute, which has been planned for benefit both white and Negro leaders, began Monday. It is sponsored by the Columbia Recrea-

Social Security Report Asks Aid For Domestics, Farmers

Say One-Third Of Population Is Unprotected

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 1-18-44

Full Coverage Of Medical Bills Also Suggested

WASHINGTON—(A N P) — Domestics, farm hands and small business people would be extended benefits of unemployment insurance and old-age compensation in the recommendations carried in the eighth annual report of the Social Security board are translated into legislation by congress.

The board's report to Congress urges early action to (1) bring all Americans who work for a living under one Comprehensive national social insurance system (2) cover the costs of hospital and medical care and insure against total loss of income due to the sickness and disability, as well as unemployment, old age, and death; (3) secure the social security rights of men and women in the armed services; (4) liberalize the public assistance programs so that the federal government can help the states give adequate aid to all needy people.

MANY UNPROTECTED

The reported estimates that one-third of the working population is wholly unprotected by either old-age and survivors insurance or unemployment compensation. In addition to the farm and household workers, others excluded are owners of small farms and businesses, employment in which substantial numbers of Negroes earn their living. 1-18-44

"No important occupational groups rank lower in the scale of earnings than farm workers and household workers," according to the report, "even when allowance is made for what these workers receive in the form of food and shelter. For most in these groups, employment is typically uncertain and unbroken. The hired hand' and the 'hired girl' who were considered members of the household in an earlier generation have given way to workers whose relationships with their employers are often brief and casual.

"On the mechanized farms, 'gang labor' is increasing; in smaller city homes, equipped with household machines, there is greater use of part-time and intermittent domestic service. This change in working relationships has led inevitably to less sense of responsibility on the part of employers in finding a place for aged employes or in helping them in sickness and other emergencies." 1-18-44

NEED MEDICAL CARE

The board's report calls attention to the need for new social insurance provisions to meet the costs of medical and hospital care. While great progress has been made in extending the average length of life and raising standards of physical well-being, the report says "there are groups whose chances of survival are no greater than those which existed in the United States 60 years ago. Some places, especially rural areas, are almost (2) without access to modern facilities to prevent and cure illness."

Women Outnumber Men In Social Security Benefit

People's Voice-New York, N.Y. 1-8-44

More than half of the 750,000 beneficiaries receiving monthly old-age and survivors insurance checks from the Social Security Board are women and children, it was announced today by George E. Cohron, Manager of the Board's 209 W 125 st office, as the highlight of a statement on social security developments during 1943.

Payment of $155,000,000 in monthly insurance checks under this Federal family insurance program set a new mark in the seventh year of the program's operation, Mr. Cohron said.

"Even though women and children — the widows, wives and orphans of insured workers who retire or die—make up more than half the total of our beneficiary rolls," said Mr. Cohron, "it is surprising that many women do not realize that they have valuable family insurance protection by reason of their husband's work in insured employment."

"Although it is still in its infancy, the Federal old-age and survivors insurance system is already one of the vital forces bolstering the welfare of American families and the economic life of the Nation," Mr. Cohron added.

Because of the unprecedented employment opportunities in 1943, some 47 million workers in industry and commerce received wages that count toward monthly benefits for themselves and their families under this Government insurance system. 1-8-44

The number of people receiving old-age and survivors insurance monthly payments increased from 587,000 at the beginning to almost 750,000 at the end of the year. Another 100,000 persons were entitled to benefits but were not receiving them, most of them because they prefer to continue working. The $155,000,000 paid to beneficiaries was $33,000,000 more than was paid during the preceding year. The estimated total payments to retired workers in 1943 were $83,000,000; to wives of retired workers, $13,000,000; to children $32,000,000; to widows with young children, $17,000,000; to widows 65 and older, $10,000,000; to aged parents about $600,000.

Changes in Social Security System Would Benefit Negro Wage Earners

Call-Kansas City, Mo. 1-28-44

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Changes in the present Social Security System that would greatly benefit Negro wage earners, self-employed Negroes, and Negro families generally, are urged in the eighth annual report of the Social Security board, of which Arthur J. Altmeyer is chairman.

The purpose of the all-inclusive program of social security urged by the Social Security board, J. E. Wrenn, Regional Director in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, said, "is to make it possible for the working population to assure themselves of a basic independence throughout the entire period of family life by distributing the returns from labor over the periods in which a breadwinner can earn and those in which he cannot earn. Social insurance represents a safeguard for the worker in his effort to provide support for himself and his family."

The board's report to congress urges early action (1) bring all Americans who work for a living under one comprhensive national social insurance system (2) over the costs of hospital and medical care and insure against total loss of income due to the sickness and disability, as well as unemployment, old age, and death; (3) secure the social security rights of men and women in the armed services; (4) liberalize assistance programs so that the federal government can help the states give adequate aid to call needy people.

The reported estimates that one-third of the working population is wholly unprotected by either old-age and survivors insurance or unemployment compensation. In addition to the farm and household workers, others excluded are owners of small farms and businesses, employment in which substantial numbers of Negroes earn their living. 1-28-44

"No important occupational groups rank lower in the scale of earnings than farm workers and household workers," according to the report, "even when allowance is made for what these workers receive in the form of food and shelter. For most in these groups, employment is typically uncertain and unbroken. The 'hired hand' and the 'hired girl' who were considered members of the household in an earlier generation have given way to workers whose relationships with their employers are often brief and casual.

"On the mechanized farms, 'gang labor' is increasing; in smaller city homes, equipped with household machines, there is greater use of part-time and intermittent domestic service. This change in working relationships has led inevitably to less sense of responsibility on the part of employers in finding a place for aged employes or in helping them in sickness and other emergencies." 1-28-44

Self-employed people need the benefits of social insurance as much as those who work for wages or salary, the report says in urging their inclusion under the Social Security Act.

Although "often thought of in terms of well-to-do business and professional men whose work is 'independent'," the report points out that most of the 10 to 11 million small businesses look on self-employed are "operators of small farms and stores, repair services, and the like, whose returns are small and whose 'independence' is largely illusory." The report goes on to say:

"The common notion that 'being in business' means of making provisions for their old age or assuring the support they themselves have no adequate means of making provisions for likely to have families dependent

port of their families if they should die or become disabled. Unemployment insurance, which stems from the severance of an employer-employee relationship, is less applicable to persons who work for themselves, and self-employed persons also are less likely to suffer measurable losses of income from temporary illness. In all other respects, their need for social insurance parallels that of wage earners."

The board's report calls attention to the need of new social insurance provisions to meet the costs of medical and hospital care. While great progress has been made in extending the average length of life and raising standards of physical well-being, the report says "there are groups whose chances of survival are no greater than those which exist in the United States 60 years ago. Some places, especially rural areas, are almost without access to modern facilities to prevent and cure illness."

66b-1944

Conference Gags Critic Of Dewey's Negro Policy

PM New York, N.Y.
3-30-44

PM Exclusive

When Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the New York Urban League, attacked Gov. Dewey yesterday for letting down the Negroes, he had to cross swords with some of the most conservative talent on Long Island, including the daughter of the late President Theodore Roosevelt.

The annual meeting of the New York State Conference on Social Work, for the 13th area, was proceeding as quietly as social conferences normally proceed, at Islip State Hospital, L. I., until Lewis opened up on *The Challenge of the Minority Question.*

"The Governor," he said, "has done no service to the advancement of New York State minorities by abondoning the Fair Employment Practice Act, and moving toward the White House instead." 3-30-44

Lewis explained to about 400 social workers that the two bills which the Governor scuttled, substituting a commission to make one more study of discrimination, would have greatly improved minority conditions.

He no sooner sat down than Richard Gilmartin, the Commissioner of Public Welfare of Suffolk Country, remarked that it was unfortunate that politics had been introduced into the conference.

Then Edwin Wallace, the Commissioner of Public Welfare of Nassau County, came to the aid of his fellow Commissioner.

"Gov. Dewey is the greatest Governor that ever graced the Governor's chair," he shouted, and Republicans applauded.

But when Lewis replied to Commissioner Wallace, social workers throughout the place applauded him.

Then Mrs. Ethel Roosevelt Derby, daughter of the late President, wearing a Red Cross uniform, went to the platform and defended the Red Cross policy of separate blook banks by saying the Army ordered it. 3-30-44

Lewis said that the Red Cross could have changed that policy. Then Gilmartin, the chairman, ordered all controversy to end at once, barred further political discussion—and the conference ended, with Dewey by no means the winner.

SOCIAL WORK APPOINTEE. Eugene Y. Lowe, 1942 graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, who has been appointed social service worker in the children's services, Board of Public Welfare of the District of Columbia. Mr. Lowe is also a graduate of Morehouse College, Atlanta. After completing his training at the Atlanta School of Social Work, Mr. Lowe was employed, until recently, as a case worker at the St. Louis (Mo.) Provident Association.

Social Work

Open for Business!

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.

The Good Hearts, Inc., formerly the Friends, the group of stalwart souls who supported that brave little dancer, the late Margaret Beckett, who fought the ravages of arthritis singlehandedly until the organization came to her aid in 1941, now have a home of their own at 217 W. 125 st. Although most of its membership comes from theatrical circles, the organization has a broad, all-encompassing program designed to help worthy persons in distress regardless of race, creed or color and regardless of profession. And by help, the Good Hearts don't mean a "crust of bread." They mean help with a heart—the kind of help that leads to hope and finally to a full and fruitful life. 7-22-44

7-22-44

HERE THE GOOD HEARTS GATHER around their executive board table. They are (l to r) Sigrid Sellridge, Ethel Willis; Alice R. Ammons, chairman of the sick committee; Ina Sweeting, secretary; J. C. Johnson, president; Wilhelmina Adams, vice-president; Lilyan Evans Brown, chaplain; Marie Lucas, Earl Sweeting, Theresa Brooks, Luckey Roberts and Eddie Hunter, Marvel Cooke not shown in pix, is honorary president—(PV foto).

7-22-44

And the beautiful thing about their work, under the guidance of Songwriter J. C. Johnson, is that it doesn't conflict with any existing agency, either public or private.

"As a matter of fact," Mr. Johnson, president of the organization, remarked this week, "we encourage our members to participate in other worthwhile organizations. It broadens us to know what the other fellow is doing and it helps us in our own particular work."

As a matter of fact, many of the Good Hearts hold membership in the Negro Actor's Guild, Inc., and are active participants in the guild's program. Mr. Johnson is a member of the executive board.

But back to the new office opened by the Good Hearts. It was done with a small outlay of money. All of the furniture was donated. And the office is manned by volunteers from the organization itself. Office hours are from 10 to 6 pm, with four persons taking two-hour stints. Volunteers for the month of July are Sigrid Selfridge, Lillian Evans, Ida Forsyne Hubbard, who is acting as secretary, and Ethel Willis. 7-22-44

The work of the organization is dedicated to the memory of Margaret Beckett, whom the organization sent to Arizona with a companion three years ago after a five-week drive which netted $1,300 and whom, after her death, the organization brought back to New York for burial.

Of the organization, Father Walsh said at Margaret's funeral: "I have seen miracles before in Harlem, but I have seen nothing like this. For services to fellowmen, this group tops them all!"

And so the spirit of Margaret will live on in the work of the Good Hearts and guide them in their work among the people of Harlem.

Negro Woman Heads Mixed Settlement House

The Whip
Miami, Florida

HARTFORD, Conn. — Miss Dorothy Snowden of Everett, Mass., has successfully completed a year as supervisor of the North Street unit of Union Settlement, the first colored woman to be appointed to the position. 7-22-44

At the settlement, Miss Snowden heads a staff of 33 workers of whom eight are colored and 25 are white. The unit serves a community of colored Americans, Russians, Polish, Italian and Irish families.

The Growth of Southern Literature

By HAROLD PREECE

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

Once the recognized culture of the South was a miserere of murder and magnolias, reaching its high note in that pipsqueak of apologists for sweat shops and lynch mobs: "Look what the damyankees done to us!"

Once on the ruins of what a native Southerner, James Branch Cabell, called "the greatest civilization that never existed," derringdo gentlemen from the right side of the creek wooed, through whole pages of pretty prose, bewitching strumpets "pure" as the dew on Corton Ed Smith's calla lilies.

Once—before Howard Fast raised up Gideon Jackson, and Arno Bontemps raised up Nat Turner to seal the lids on urns full of unburied Confederate ashes—few books that had either beauty or truth or integrity came out of my homeland.

Where was the great history of the slave rebellions, until Henrietta Buckmaster, gave us Let My People Go? Where, besides the gaudy hoke of Charles Neville Buck and Harold Bell Wright, could we find, the proud and ancient culture of the Southern mountaineers, weaving the fabric of a people's culture in their souls as they wove the fabric of their jeans pants and their hickory shirts on their spinning wheels.

Where were the Southern people in Southern literature? The question answers itself. For Southern literature had about as much relation to a semi-literate people and their deeply authentic folk culture as a rooster fight down on the sandbanks bears to this war of all peoples for political and spiritual liberation.

But ten years have passed in Dixie. And those of us who first sowed in new fields—fertile because the Confederate "artists" of the South had let them lie fallow—can now see the harvest that the South is reaping from the seeds sown at Scottsboro and Gastonia.

New books and new magazines are being produced by awakened Southerners for a new and awakening South. New and capable artists of the people are arising not only from the colleges and the comfortable homes on Main Street, but also from the factories and from the sharecropper shanties along the bayous.

I think of two writers, each of whom represents a turning point in Southern literature because each represents a turning point in life of the Southern people. One of these writers is Lillian Smith, author of that impassioned and beautiful, if incomplete novel Strange Fruit. The other is my friend, Clinton Clark, a former Louisiana sharecropper organizer who is now working as doorman in a New York hotel, and whose unpublished autobiography, the work of what Walt Whitman would call a "strong uneducated person," is in my possession to be fixed up for possible publication.

To me, Lillian Smith and Clinton Clark reflect by contrast the uneven progress of the South—a progress which will eventually find a common medium and a common source in the South's fast-stepping young labor movement. Lillian Smith, I think, writes truthfully and sincerely about towns like Maxwell, Georgia, where the Southern labor movement has not yet entered to alter the color line by the simple process of bringing white and Negro workers together in the same meeting halls to organize for the same economic and political goals.

Much of the criticism of Lillian Smith and her book simply reflects the deep ignorance of Northern progressives about the changing South. Too many of our Northern friends who come South to organize, do us more harm than good by their failure to understand our rural folkways, by their impatience with us whose background is not four years in college but the four or five months session in the one-room leaky schoolhouse.

Lillian Smith's background is not that of a Northern woman whose family had to fight through the trade unions for the wages that would permit sending their children to school. Neither is her background that of the South one-room school, since she comes from the South's semi-aristocracy as does that Mississippi woman, Frances Gaither, who has recently turned out a heart-warming book of a slave rebellion, The Red Cock Crows.

But, perhaps imperfectly and immaturely Miss Smith has cast her lot with the Southern people. Those who are too dogmatic in their criticism of her, fail to allow her and other Southern artists, gradually finding their way, any leeway for growth and development.

LILLIAN SMITH,
author of 'Strange Fru

LONG, UPHILL STRUGGLE

For you must understand that our new books and our new unions are expressions of people who still have to cut across many dim paths before hitting the high road. When you are building a new tradition on the ashes of an old tradition, you are going to leave many gaps until the new tradition can become the established one through the triumph of the people who make it.

Lillian Smith, represents both the promise and, at present, the limitations of the new traditions.

Clinton Clark's unpublished book, written in the people's English rather than in the King's English, is the challenging work of a man who knows the Southern progressive movement because he helped make it.

At it stands, it is one of those diamonds in the rough which must not be polished up too much with correct constructions and correct grammar, or it will be spoiled by having its contest rubbed out for the sake of form.

I have wanted to give a clearer background for the South's cultural awakening. But most of you know that background—most of you know about the Scottsboro cases which smashed in some of the tight locks that held in the minds of the South. Most of you know that factories have brought payrolls to the South, that payrolls not only mean new houses and new clothes for our people but new ideas as well.

If you want to know what new ideas are causing us to scratch our heads in the union halls and the general stores, read Don West's magnificent book of poems about the South, **Toil and Hunger.** Read Cedric Belfrage's nev. book about that Arkansas prophet, Claude Williams, **A Faith to Free the People.**

Read **The South and World Affairs,** published by the Southern Council on International Relations, at Chapel Hill, N. C. This magazine, published by Southern business men, shows that the South is taking the road to Teheran, since the editor runs splendid articles about Southern labor and the Negroes. Read the **Southern Patriot,** published by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare for Nashville—a must because, each month, it gives you the inside on every program for the people being undertaken by the South's progressive organizations.

Read—but critically—the **Southern Literary Messenger,** of Richmond. Reflecting again the uneven development of the South, the magazine publishes articles favoring state rights by that arch-aristocrat, Senator Harry F. Byrd, at the same time that it publishes sympathetic stories by Southern writers like Kathleen Sutton, protesting the humiliations heaped upon both the South and Negroes by the South's double-deck "Aryans."

I do not recommend Lillian Smith's magazine, **The South Today** though I do defend her book. The magazine reflects some rather bad influences that are capitalizing upon Lillian Smith's political naivete, including the Atlanta "labor" racketeer who is suspected of being identified with the Trotzkyite faction, Frank McAlester.

But it's the job of the socially conscious writers of the South to unmask and expose these attacks before their innocent dupes in Southern cultural circles, as it is the duty of our socially conscious workers to expose and unmask them before their dupes in the Southern labor movement.

Change In the South, But a Different Kind

The true significance of the election in its aspect as a protest against reaction was revealed nowhere else so plainly as in the South. In most states of that traditionally Democratic region, an effort had been pressed, backed by potent political and economic forces, fired by appeals to the least worthy of passions and prejudices, to defeat President ROOSEVELT and to undo the New Deal program by one means or another—by votes if possible, by a combination of craft, power and betrayal otherwise.

Most openly in Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas and South Carolina, and to a certain extent in all the other Southern states, the issue was drawn, powerful organizations were developed and well-financed campaigns conducted. The effort began last spring, with attempts to capture control of state political machines and through them to subvert the Electoral College.

In Texas, it almost succeeded through thimble-rigged conventions—but there and in Mississippi it was defeated by an unmistakable popular uprising which brought a resounding rebuke to such leaders as Senator O'DANIEL and MARTIN DIES, who threw off their mask of party loyalty and campaigned relentlessly for a turncoat ticket that obtained only about 10 per cent of the total vote.

The issue was plain and the meaning of the vote was unmistakable because in the campaigning all reference to international policies, and to the war and its necessities, was neglected, and the fight was based on simple prejudice, on attempts to rally votes by the vilest of personal attacks on the President and his wife, on the previously handy—but perhaps never again so—issue of race and religious animadversions.

In every case the people had no difficulty in tearing away the thin disguise, in revealing the phony nature of the cries of "free enterprise" that came from one side of the mouth and "Communism" that came from the other, by which the leaders of the so-called revolt attempted to cover the truth of their allegiances and the fact that they had been against progressive legislation and administration from the start, and for obvious reasons of self-interest and rapacity.

This vindication of the American voter as essentially a decent, fair and intelligent creature, a believer in true freedom and democratic progress, is to be seen also in his opposition to the vicious proposal in three states that their constitutions be amended to include a virtual prohibition against labor organization. This idea of establishing the open shop by basic law, presented under the specious appeal of "freedom to work," appears to have been defeated in two states—California and Florida—and to be enjoying opposition to the "yellow-dog" mandate was of only a slender margin of votes in Arkansas, based obviously on fair-mindedness and a ca

The result is significant because in Florida re recognition that it bore sinister implications of enslavement.

It begins to look as if the idea that it was indeed time for a change—but not the kind of change that Governor DEWEY preached—caught hold in the South. The end of politi-

cal ascendency of the Pappy O'DANIEL school of demagogues seems to be in sight. A liberal spirit has been revivified.

PRAISES COLORED GROUP

Editor, The Telegraph: 11-11-44

On February sixth, 1942, we had a storm here which was the worst that ever visited this section and on the above date the colored people's church was blown down, and it killed the school teacher and three pupils were crippled and there were others who stayed in Macon hospital for sometime but finally got well with the loss of one eye, etc. Telegraph

Recently these colored people had a rally to raise funds to build them another church and raised one thousand and twenty-one dollars and forty cents. This amount was raised in actual cash and not by subscription. Macon, Ga.

I want to say that we have the best section of colored people that can be found in Georgia anywhere. They are hard-working, honest, law-abiding and truthful and polite to all white people and you never hear of anything going wrong among them at any time. 11

Eatonton. CHAS. P. EZELL.

BIRMINGHAM NEWS

Southern Cotton Men Study Plans To Enrich Region

Chiefs Agree On Need For Industrial Growth To Assure Employment

12-10-44

Southern Cotton

BY JOE HUTTLINGER
News-Age-Herald Bureau

WASHINGTON — New voices spoke this week for renewed and vigorous efforts to bring industry into the South.

The call came at a meeting of 200 cotton industry leaders held before a sub-committee of the House agriculture committee to diagnose the ills of King Cotton. His 100-year reign, it was generally admitted, has bumped into adversity.

But whatever the solution—and scores were offered—it was agreed that industrial development of the South must march forward to give new jobs, new products, more money and general health to the 10 cotton states.

* * *

AMONG THE VOICES was that of Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard who said:

"Fewer people will be employed on farms to produce cotton after the war.

"One of the chief answers is greater industrialization in the South. For many years there has been a marked tendency for many young people from Southern farm homes to go to the city to work. In recent years, as war plants sprang up, this drift has become almost an exodus. Even so, we can expect surplus farm population still to be one of the major problems of the cotton South. Development of business and industry in the South itself seems to be the best answer—far better than encouraging too many young people to leave the section completely.

"More store and factory jobs in the South will mean more nearby markets for milk, eggs, meat, fresh vegetables and fruit raised by farmers who remain on the land.

"In this connection," he said, "the whole freight rate structure needs to be reexamined." 12-10-44

* * *

SEN BANKHEAD SAID he was cheered by the secretary's statement.

"I am glad he has gotten around to doing something about Southern industry. I have been talking it for years to Chambers of Commerce, service clubs and others. It is of paramount importance. Industry and agriculture are inter-dependent. They must march on together."

Sen. Bankhead, foremost friend of the farmer in the Senate, is head of the Senate agriculture committee. 12-10-44

At least twelve speakers pointed out that the future of cotton is a mechanical revolution. A machine will do the work of six persons, perhops more, it was said. The result will be joblessness unless healthy industrial activity can provide new employment.

War Food Administrator Marvin Jones asked for more road, water and air travel routes to give jobs in the South; for irrigation and flood control, home ownership, better schools and immediate action to foster industrial growth.

* * *

THE SOUTH, SAID SPEAKER AFTER SPEAKER, is the nation's number one economic problem. For too long it has depended solely on cotton. Now the 25,000,000 persons who live from cotton do not have satisfactory incomes.

Tom Linder, commissioner of agriculture of Georgia, asserted that service men and war workers returning to the South cannot all find jobs on farms.

"Small processing plants and small manufacturing plants scattered at every hamlet and crossroad will be needed," he said. "The South needs industries of all kinds. If it fights for them, it will get them."

* * *

SOUTHERN SENATORS are growing more divided on important legislation. Defeat of the $70,000,000 Tennessee-Tombigbee river development, which would have benefited Alabama, was seen as an indication of this.

Voting "no" were Sens. McKellar and Stewart, of Tennessee; Chandler, of Kentucky, and George, of Georgia.

The other Georgia senator, Russell, voted "yes," and the bill had the hearty support of Sens. Hill and Bankhead, of Alabama.

Several senators, believed supporters, were absent, ill or away on business. 12-10-44

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THE ALABAMA-COOSA RIVER PROJECT, before the Senate this week, is an old shoe. So was the Tombigbee development. For at least a decade, the Coosa project has been the subject of conferences and legislation. One of its chief supporters has been Rep. Joe Starnes, of Alabama's Fifth District. The cost is estimated at $60,000,000.

The anti-sabotage bill, passed last week by the House, represents a major victory for Rep. Sam Hobbs, of Alabama's Fourth District. The bill, which stiffens existing sabotage laws, has been a favorite of his since the Anaconda Copper Company scandal last year. The Hobbs bill makes it illegal to sell as well as manufacture defective war material, and broadens the description of war material.

* * *

LEWIS CLARK, formerly of Montgomery, has been nominated for promotion from foreign service officer to consul general with the State Department. Clark, born in 1895, is now stationed at Ottawa. He graduated from Marion Military Institute and attended the University of Virginia. He was in private business as surveyor of sugar plants in Cuba, in the cotton business and joined the State Department in 1925. He served in Peking, Kalgan, Tsinan, Hankow and Peiping.

GORDON PERSONS, head of the Alabama Public Service Commission, was in Washington this week for conferences with Sen. Hill and heads of the Federal Power Commission. With him were W. T. Cooper, chief accountant, and C. L. Rittenhouse, chief engineer.

* * *

A HOUSE-APPROVED BILL of interest to small banks is before the Senate banking and currency committee of which Sen. Bankhead is an active member. The bill would permit banks within the Federal Reserve System to continue their long standing practice of absorbing the expense of exchange and collection charge imposed by other banks on eah clearings. Many small banks favor the bill, while larger ones, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation oppose it. 12-10-44

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REP. JOE STARNES, of Alabama's Fifth District, ranking member of the House committee on un-American activities, said that before Congress recesses, it will have a report from the committee. Included in the report will be the most complete tabulation yet of funds spent by the CIO-PAC in the recent election.

* * *

EUFAULA HAD ITS DAY in Washington, while home folks rejoiced this week.

The town of 2,000 is the first community in Alabama to have a Liberty ship named after it.

At the launching Wednesday were Mayor and Mrs. Moss Moulthrop and their daughter, Mary, who smashed a bottle of champagne against the hull. The ship slid down the ways at the Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore. 12-10-44

Assisting Miss Moulthrop were Misses Annie Slade and Mary Jo Dixon. Mrs. James Slade attended, too.

The party was entertained by Rep. George Andrews, Alabama's Third District congressman. The ship weighs 10,700 tons and will be at sea in two weeks. The next Alabama community to have a Liberty named after it will be Selma.

66b-1944

South

THE SOUTH'S FUTURE

PLANNING FOR THE SOUTH, An Inquiry Into the Economics of Regionalism, by John V. Van Sickle. Published by the Vanderbilt University Press; 250 pages, $2.75. News-Birmingham, Ala. 5-13-44

The basic problem of modern Western society is the maintenance of full production and employment with reasonable security for the individual, and also with the maintenance of the basic personal freedoms on which American society is based. For centuries Western society has been evolving toward expanded political freedoms and economic freedoms. Can we retain these freedoms? In "Planning for the South" Prof. Van Sickle, an economist at Vanderbilt University, analyzes this problem as it affects the South. It is an able book which should help thoughtful Southerners in making the vital decisions of the next few years.

There have been three main schools of thought on Southern problems. The Agrarians, represented by 12 Southerners: ("I'll Take My Stand"), have wanted to reestablish a Southern yeoman class with an emphasis on subsistence farming. They represent a return to the economic and social conditions of the time of Jefferson. The national industrial group, represented by Carter Goodrich and others: ("Migration and Economic Opportunity"), accept a continued dominant North with regional emigration a constant of Southern life. The regional industrial view, represented by The Manufacturers Record, expects Southern industrialization to solve most Southern problems. Van Sickle believes none of them has the answer, but rather that the South must have both agricultural and industrial development with emigration from areas of declining opportunity. 5-13-44

To achieve these goals federal aid must be had, but such aid should be based on terms different from those now used. The AAA, for example, strives to maintain a past parity by opposing change and penalizing good land to maintain poor land in production. Federal aid should be designed to help people adjust to desirable changes, even if that change involves moving to another area or shifting to another occupation.—A. J. T.

SOUTHERN SAY-SO

Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

Forces of Education in League with Mrs. F. D. R. On Race Issue

By M. S. STUART

2-26-44

IF YOUR HEART is not real stout, you had better not attack Mrs Roosevelt. It appears that she really packs a wallop in retort. Simple faith colored people around here are saying that she is a special child of God and that the swift, sad fate which came upon one of her recent defamers was due to that fact. They say about her something what as Joe Louis said about the war: "She's on God's side, and you had better let her alone."

Mr Stuart

Recently W. T. Straub, a railroad conductor running between Memphis, Tenn., and Paducah, Ky., wrote to the First Lady, enclosing clipped stories of some violence between Negro troops from a camp at Dreyersburg, Tenn., and civilian officers at nearby Ripley. The tenor of the stories and the accompanying comment by inference, at least, charged Mrs. Roosevelt with being the indirect cause of that trouble.

SAD READING! 2-26-44

Straub, who ran right through the scene of disturbance, appears to have become more worked up over the matter than the officers involved, one of whom was wounded. Certainly nothing short of a high state of excitement, sightless zeal and an inflamed intellect could have caused such fallacious reasoning by which this Queen of the Nation was accused of being the cause of trouble of a type that was occurring from time to time even while she was yet a child.

HER reply was a three-line typical Rooseveltian enigma—at least to Straub and similar irrational zealots who persist in remaining blind to the basic factors in which are rooted the conditions out of which unfortunate clashes of this kind spring. She said: "I have your letter of January 2, with its enclosures. These articles are sad reading for you—not for me."

ONLY COINCIDENCE, PERHAPS

The dynamite, if any, in those innocent looking three lines, does not readily meet the eye; yet W. T. Straub dropped dead of heart failure on February 9, after leaving home in apparent good health to go out on his run. That sad end to the little quarrel which he provoked was probably only a coincidence. But some colored people say not. They are saying the Lord had something to do with it. As one good sister put it, "Now just look what the Lord done did to him."

MORE plausible, however, is the belief by some that the sudden publicity and notoriety imposed upon his heart, already weak, a burden greater than it could bear. Then there is the idea that his attack upon Mrs. Roosevelt might have projected him into unanticipated trouble with union labor or even with his employing railroad.

CRUX SPOTLIGHTED

The reaction to this localized incident spotlights the crux of a Southwide condition Southern leaders should become more realistic about than they have hitherto seemed inclined. Mrs. Roosevelt seems to personify the focal point about which the shafts of sentiment clash. Many Southern white leaders make no bones about her attitude towards minorities being the cause of their malevolence and abuse. On the contrary, all classes of colored people, whether they dare become expressive about it or not, adore the first lady. That is but natural, and it should be expected and understood. Pointed up in this situation, then, is a pitiable condition, with this noble woman the unwitting victim of its cross-fires of sentiment.

SHE is not the cause of Southern racial conditions. She is not the cause of the steady intensification of minority ambitions everywhere for a fairer share in the fruits of democracy. Heaping abuse upon her and falsely accusing her of being the cause of racial clashes do not help in improving conditions. Differ with her? Yes, and if her theories and methods are not the wisest and most practical meet and counter them with some others more practical and sound. It is stark dumbness to expect Negroes not to admire any strong white friend, North or South, who speaks out for them; or maneuvers material benefits for their advancement. They will not be detached by idle denunciation.

A CHANGING SOUTH

Detractors who think that Negroes may be kept ambitionless, poor and ignorant, were it not for people like Mrs. Roosevelt, are reminded of the moving forces of education, even the slim portion available to Negroes in some places. These forces are in league with her and her kind. It will be futile for reactionists to muzzle her and leave the school doors open. The South cannot—it will not—remain immune to the efficacy of education. It is not remaining immune, now.

Southerners Favor Primary Decision

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga.

5-26-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA)—That there is strong sentiment in the South favoring enforcement of the Supreme Court's decision in the Texas Primary case was indicated this week by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. According to that organization, hundreds of ministers, educators, business men, labor leaders and housewives from the South have signed a statement commending the court's decision.

The statement, in part, declares: "This nation is now engaged in a desperate struggle in which the central issue is the survival of democratic institutions. By depriving our enemies of a powerful propaganda weapon and be giving our fighting forces renewed confidence in our good faith in adhering to democratic principles on the home front, this decision must be considered as a powerful aid to victory.

"To deprive a person of the right to vote and at the some time to subject that person to taxation and military service is a flagrant contradiction of the democracy upon which this nation was founded. It is to practice the hated dogma of our fascist enemies. 5-26-44

"This historic decision is a bulwark to the freedom of all Americans, for so long as any group can be discriminated against because of race, religion, nationality or other arbitrary reason, just so long will the liberties of all be in jeopardy."

Prominent citizens signed the statement from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Negro Youth Program Supported By Group Of Adults In Vicinity

Birmingham News Birmingham, Alabama

With a recreation center at 2024 Avenue P as its hub, a program for Negro youth of the Ensley district was expanded and given broader support with the consolidation this week of all the interested adult groups of the vicinity under the guidance of Mrs. Mary Donehoo Durham, director, Jefferson County Youth Protective Association.

The program was launched in Ensley by Willa Stallworth, who organized a club for young girls between 13 and 17 years of age and who has, for the past three months, furnished funds for the operation of the center in a two-story, brick building. First floor of the building is used for ping-pong games, a miniature bowling alley, folk dances and other entertainments. The four rooms on the second floor are to be used for cooking and sewing instruction and as meeting places for scout troops and other youth groups. Decoration of the center has been done by the children and their adults advisors. 7-28-44

A number of activities are emanating from the center, such as radio programs which have been broadcast over WSGN and more recently a Brownie Band Concerts, which are presented with consent of the Birmingham Board of Education, each Saturday morning in the auditorium of council school. Sponsored by the Council P.-T. A., the concerts are being given to raise funds for the center.

Victoria Glover, president of Sherman Heights P.-T. A., was named chairman of the Negro Youth Recreation Council, which will serve as a clearing house for all activities of the district, with R. B. Ike as vice chairman, and Flora Wade, city nurse, as secretary. 7-28-44

In addition to the recreational program, there will be special lectures for the children at the center on such subjects as health, department, character building and home making. Certain days of the week are designated for different ages, including both girls and boys.

The council is hoping to having adequate funds shortly to have a full-time, paid director for the center, which at present is manned by volunteer workers.

THIS MORNING

Ala. Herald

by JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES

Birmingham, Ala. 11-3-44

The South's market is the South.

* * *

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—It is a philosophy with many points, and the Southern press is making them. "If that is so," declares The Winston-Salem Journal, with the biggest point of all, "our primary task is to increase the purchasing power of this market." The Macon News subscribes, agreeing that "the South itself is the South's richest potential market." The Little Rock Democrat sings loud

freight rate controversy? It has seemed to me that if our great future market is realy the home one, freight rates which limit our approach to distant markets are not so important, especially when they actually protect us at home even as they handicap us outside.

* * *

But my friend John Ferris, of TVA, doesn't agree, and I want him to have his say. I can't help pointing out that the successful manufacture at home . . .

But how does this affect the

BY JOHN P. FERRIS
Commerce Director, Tennessee Valley Authority

There can be little disagreement with Mr. Graves' general proposition that "the South's market is the South," and that ahead lie its processed foods. Thousands of new industries to serve as examples of the practical vistas of Southern farmers can and do store fresh

produce between seasons in freezer locker plants which did not exist 10 years ago. Hundreds of Southern hotels and restaurants buy frozen foods from Southern quick-freezing plants, such as those at Georgiana, Ala.; Monticello, Ga.; Dayton, Tenn., and many others. Foods manufacturing is probably now a billion dollar a year industry in the South.

* * *

Progress, however, would have been far slower had the enterprising Southern business men who built this new industry been unable to tap national markets as a stepping stone towards regional markets. To illustrate, no Southern hotel manager 10 years ago would have chanced buying Southern-made frozen foods. There were in the South no big bulk distributors of frozen foods to buy the products of small plants, classify them in accordance with quality, and develop specific markets for each kind of product. But after the newer Southern producers of frozen foods had obtained a lift by selling in the Northeast and Midwest, Southern markets gradually opened up for them. Ultimately, it will make little sense to ship processed foods from one growing area in the nation to another. Most manufactured food products will be made in or near the areas where the needed crops grow economically, and the South's largest market will probably be the South.

* * *

A similar situation faces other kinds of new industry, and specifically the manufacture of high-grade products, penalized by present freight rate discriminations. For instance, the Eisele Company of Nashville probably now sells quite a few clinical thermometers in the South, but this excellent small plant (which, by the way, demonstrates the ability of Southerners to manufacture articles requiring accuracy and refined technical processes) would hardly have come into being unless it had been able to build on access to the national market for clinical thermometers, through medical supply houses, etc. So also the Fulton-Sylphon Company, of Knoxville, which manufactures intricate and delicate devices for controlling industrial processes, could hardly have made a start if restricted to Southern markets. In this latter case, the reason is that the product is purchased largely by other industries of the kinds of which there are very few in the South. Another company in Greenville, Miss., makes delicate electric meters for the radio industry. In such cases, the problem is that of the chicken and the egg.

* * *

A great many such new manufacturing enterprises are built on the ideas of technical and business men of an original turn of mind. People of this kind don't invent to specifications. They are more like artists; they move in unpredictable directions.

* * *

Why should the South deny itself this kind of new industrial development; or rather why should the powers of government, applied through the Interstate Commerce Commission-sponsored freight rate structure, be exercised by a private business—the railroads—to hamper the growth of this kind of business in case it happens to pop up in certain interior regions of the country? America as a whole has prospered economically because, generally speaking, markets in an entire continental area have been available to any producer in that area in so far as geography permitted. The interior regions and all America have much to gain if we will stick to that general principle; where we have left it, we should return to it.

* * *

At the same time there is every reason for Southern manufacturing to develop and serve regional markets. We are the new frontier of purchasing power, and it is our special job to develop that frontier. The workers on that frontier need things they do not have—more building materials, more clothing, more consumer goods generally. But let us allow competitive forces to decide which goods will be produced here. Let us not permit private organizations to use the freight rate structure to modify the outcome of this competition in the interest of maintaining the status quo. If anyone is looking for a harmful exercise of arbitrary power by a centralized bureaucracy, here it is in the control of the economic destinies of the interior regions through the establishment of rail freight rates without reference to their over-all effects. And it isn't really government bureaucracy, either.

Other Voices In The South

Last week The Courier took exception to the proposition that such Senators as Bilbo, Ellender and Eastland speak the voice of the South. It appeared more likely, according to our reasoning and the facts at hand, that they speak for only a small minority of the worst elements in the South.

This is made more emphatic by the work which the Southern Regional Conference is undertaking. Members of this conference represent the best whites and the best blacks in the South. When the Supreme Court ruled that black citizens must be permitted to vote in the Democratic primaries, they did not rebel. Instead, they publicly advocated that the order of the Supreme Court be obeyed. They asked their fellow Southerners not to lose time fighting the Supreme Court, but to obey and save time to give to war production. This was sensible advice.

But they have gone even further. They propose to actively help Negroes to vote. They have gone to police officials, election officials, mayors, sheriffs, county commissioners, to State police, and have told them that there must be no intimidation of Negroes when they show up to vote. They have said that the Supreme Court must be obeyed and that Negro citizens must be protected in their rights.

In a sort of parting fillip, they assert that the "old days" are gone and that the South should prepare itself for the extension of democracy.

Four hundred outstanding citizens of the South, most of them white, have given their names and influence to the above. Of course, when they talk, they are not given the advantage of loudspeakers in the daily press like the Bilbos have. But we can hear them and we should help to magnify these other voices. The best should have the loud speaker, not the worst.

66b-1944

BOHN NAMES NEGRO ON HOUSING

Bee — Chicago, Ill.

3-19-44

The Rev. Cecil B. Fisher, Milwaukee county probation officer, was last week appointed by Acting Mayor John L. Bohn as one of five Milwaukeeans on the newly created City Housing Authority. The authority has broad powers to eliminate slums and establish homes for sub-standard families. 3-19-44

Fisher

The Rev. Mr. Fisher, sole Negro on the housing body, has had wide experience in civic and religious affairs. He is a member of the National Probation Association and the Wisconsin Welfare Council. He is a past president of the local N.A.A.C.P. He is a graduate of Garret Theological Seminary, Northwestern University, and has held pastorates in Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Illinois.